

## U.S. aid arrives in Colombia

BOGOTA (R) — Two U.S. C-130 cargo planes arrived here Sunday with the first shipment of a \$65 million emergency aid package to help Colombia fight its drug war. The green and grey camouflaged planes were loaded on to the Colombian military during a brief ceremony at Cota air force base on the outskirts of the capital. The U.S. embassy had said the planes contained spare parts for eight OA-37 fighter jets that will be delivered Monday as part of the aid package announced Aug. 25. Asked if the planes contained arms to fight the drug war, a U.S. embassy spokesman said he could not comment. He said one of the planes arrived here empty, however, U.S. Ambassador Thomas McInerney said Colombian air force General Alfonso Arango was on board for the plane's arrival. Defense Ministry spokesman Colonel Eduardo Arroyave told Reuters C-130s were well-suited for Colombia's war on drugs as they would allow for the quick dispatch of up to 120 troops at a time to strategic in the rugged interior. Five OH-1 Huey transport helicopters will be ferried to Colombia Tuesday on a C-5 transport aircraft that will also carry bullet-proof vests to protect judges from attacks by drug hit squads.

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## Rafsanjani names Musavi as adviser

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani appointed former Prime Minister Hossein Musavi, a leading radical, as one of his advisers Sunday, Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. Musavi, 48, served as prime minister from 1981 until last month, when the post was abolished in constitutional reforms approved by national referendum held alongside the presidential election July 28. Musavi was the second key radical leader who has been absorbed by Rafsanjani, leader of Tehran's so-called pragmatists, into his administration in recent weeks. Former Intelligence Minister Mohammad Reza Jahani was appointed prosecutor-general last month. Former Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashami, dumped by Rafsanjani, is the only major radical figure who has not been given a position in Rafsanjani's government. IRNA reported that Rafsanjani told Musavi in a letter that the former premier's experience in government should not be wasted. Musavi has frequently clashed with Rafsanjani over foreign and economic policy. He favours tight state control of the economy and opposes unrestrained links with the west. Rafsanjani favours a more open economy with greater private sector participation and has sought to rebuild bridges with the West to end Iran's isolation.

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## Non-aligned summit opens in Belgrade today King emphasises need to address Mideast issues

By Nermeen Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter  
with agency dispatches

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein Sunday joined other mostly Third World leaders gathered in the Yugoslav capital, Belgrade, to attend the ninth summit of the Non-Aligned Movement which opens Monday with regional conflicts looming high in the agenda of the three-day gathering. The importance that the Arab World as well as the international community attach to efforts to resolve the Middle East's problems was further emphasised by the King in an arrival statement.

The Non-Aligned Movement has to deal with issues in the Middle East as it will "with all regional issues which threaten peace and stability in the world," the King said.

The movement could contribute to bringing about lasting peace between Iran and Iraq after eight years of war which came to an end with a ceasefire last August, the King said. The envisaged peace settlement should be based on mutual respect and non-

interference in the internal affairs of each other, he added.

The King called for urgent efforts to resolve the Lebanese problem, "a frightening human tragedy."

The Palestinian problem remains a top priority issue, which has to be addressed on the basis of the Palestinian people's right to live on their national soil so that peace could come to the whole area, he said.

Summing up the issues facing the summit, the King said: "We will work diligently to deal with all the issues of peace, stability and justice in the world as well as relations between the members of the Non-Aligned Movement and the global need for peace and stability."

"We will also deal with such global issues such as the environment, international cooperation to contribute towards protecting it and to counter pollution."

Voicing pleasure over visiting Belgrade, the King paid tribute to Jordanian-Yugoslav relations, "which have grown stronger through the (Non-Aligned) Movement, of which both coun-

tries were founders."

"It is a pleasure to see that a large number of world countries have joined the movement," he said.

The King, who is accompanied by Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Royal Court Chief Mader Badran and Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, is expected to present a working paper to the summit on the Lebanese strife and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Although Yugoslavia has sought to redirect the attention of the summit to lesser controversial issues such as the environment and more pressing issues such as the growing national debt of non-aligned countries, regional conflicts are expected to take the arena and cause heated debates and verbal clashes among feuding members.

A hint of the trends which will control the summit have already come to the surface over draft statements in which Yugoslavia hoped to adopt a more realistic approach, according to reports from Belgrade. Hardliners like Cuba, North Korea and Libya have called for implicit attacks on "imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism," while moderates called for a balanced statement which gives prominence to the issue

of human rights.

A draft statement which is expected to praise the improvement in Soviet-American ties for promoting peace prospects throughout the world, also drew discontent from Third World countries which either felt that the statement was too optimistic or somewhat inaccurate.

Third World countries feel that they bear the brunt of the new-found "detente" since the Third World is dire straits and economic issues are not covered by superpower relations.

Hope, however, remains high among member countries that rhetoric will be cut and a new more pragmatic line will be adopted during the summit. Complaints are getting increasing loud that the movement has lost its "sense of direction" and that it needs a complete change in its image while its ideals remain the same.

"I expect and hope that we will be able to deal in a strong way with the problems that we have," Mubarak told reporters upon his arrival. "I expect more efficient decisions."

Among the regional conflicts that figures high for debate at the gathering, Afghanistan was shaping up Sunday as one of the most divisive. Afghan President Najibullah appeared headed for problems as soon as he arrived with Pakistan objecting strongly to a draft declaration on his war-torn country.



HM King Hussein

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who supports the Afghan government, is expected to back calls for a non-aligned initiative to resolve the Afghan civil war.

But Pakistan, which has fought three wars against India, rejects the idea as too likely to favour Najibullah.

On the Gulf, Iran and Iraq showed rare unanimity in rejecting a non-aligned resolution urging them to settle their differences.

Any resolution adopted is expected to be greatly watered down. The Iraqi and Iranian presidents are not attending.

Delegates also feared that rivalry between Syria and Iraq would hamper efforts to make an effective statement on the fighting in Lebanon.

African, Latin American, Asian and Arab leaders are gathered here for the summit in Belgrade, the city where 25 countries founded the Non-Aligned Movement 28 years ago. The movement now includes 102 countries.

## Regional workshop opens on private sector Government affirms privatisation plans

By Mariam M. Shalhin  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz Sunday reaffirmed the government's plans to privatise at least three major government-owned corporations and underlined the role of the private sector in national efforts to address the Kingdom's economic problems and help its development.

"The government has earmarked three Jordanian companies with plans for privatisation and steps are now being taken to find the best formula for implementation," Fariz told a regional workshop entitled "Enhancement of the Role of the Private Sector in Development," organised by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Amman Chamber of Industry.

"The government has already expressed its intention to sell its shares in a number of companies and is expected to invite offers from the private sector to buy shares, in particular hotel and tourism related industries," the minister said.

The companies initially earmarked for privatisation are Royal Jordanian (RJ), the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) and the Public Transport Corporation (PTC), he added.

The government of Zaid Rifai indicated that it planned to privatise the three companies in 1985, but the plans were never implemented.

The regional workshop, attended by delegates from at least six countries, UNDP experts and Jordanian officials, was formally opened by Amman Chamber of Industry Chairman Khalid Abu Hassan.

Addressing the gathering, K.G. Singh, deputy assistant administrator and deputy regional director of the Regional Bureau for Arab States and Europe (RBASE), welcomed the

moves towards privatisation in the economies of the countries participating in the seminar.

"The introduction of the spirit of competition must by no means be forgotten," he said. While industries may have become accustomed to a certain degree of protectionism, it did not always encourage efficiency nor quality, he said.

"Increasing international competition, which has come about through a) greater mobility of methods of production, b) more efficient flow of information, and c) an increased pace of technological changes, has made it ever more imperative to strive towards efficiency," he said.

"It is only under the pressure of competition that the efficiency and quality of the private sector will improve; this also applies to the public sector," Singh said.

The two-day regional workshop, which will conclude Monday evening, will look at the present state of the private sector and impediments in its way, the nature of issues facing the government in terms of policies and regulations, past and present government action to boost the private sector, said Dr. Ali Attiga, the UNDP resident representative.

"UNDP's role is to render advice and technical assistance whether on a consultancy basis... or in the form of training and fellowships or other technical measures that will enable the government and the private sector to interact more efficiently and effectively," Attiga said.

Farid Attigani, a UNDP consultant who was actively involved in compiling the studies on the possibilities of privatisation in six countries participating in the workshop, feels "that Jordan should look at Turkey as an example." Despite the obvious differences between the two economies, Attigani said, "Jordan has yet to familiarise itself with

the whole network of privatisation."

"It took the Turks six to seven years to privatise two major firms," he said. "Privatisation is linked to many factors. You may have a number of hindering problems in a given firm, such as overemployment or difficulties in marketing the companies' shares. Many problems are linked to developments in the capital market — within certain economic limits."

He expressed hope that the workshop would also review certain prerequisites for privatisation, such as restructuring and the suitability of capital markets.

"I want Jordanian government officials and industrialists to seriously think through the process of privatisation. 1) They have to be aware that obstacles to privatisation exist; 2) they have to look for the obstacles; and 3) they have to find a way around them," he said.

Referring to the government's role in the privatisation process, Attigani said the authorities need to "develop a Jordanian money market into a capital market. They have to look at the firms one by one, decide what their problems are and solve the problems, may it be restructuring or otherwise, before allowing them to go public. This is necessary to make the firms more attractive to the public. Who wants to invest in a firm which has basic problems?"

"The role of the central bank in this case would be to 'change its horizons,' and change the money market, which serves short term interests to a capital market which serves long term interests."

During the afternoon session of the workshop, attended by Egypt, Turkey, Cyprus, Tunisia and North Yemen, specific studies on the economies of Jordan, Egypt and Cyprus were discussed.

## Tanks battle in northeast Beirut front

BEIRUT (R) — Rival forces fought with tanks and artillery in the mountains northeast of Beirut Sunday along a line separating Lebanon's Christian enclave from territory controlled by Syrian troops and their Lebanese militia allies.

Security sources said scores of shells hit nearby villages and coastal areas as the troops of army commander Michel Aoun and pro-Syrian forces battled on the northern Dower front. They had no reports of casualties.

Beirut itself enjoyed a respite from shelling, giving its war-exhausted people a chance to rest

after spending the past three days cowering indoors or crowded together in dark and hot shelters.

Some residents drove to the mountains or spent the day at the beach but the majority stayed at home, anticipating a fresh onslaught of artillery bombardments between Aoun's army and Syrian forces and their allies.

Acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss, who heads a civilian government vying for power with Aoun's military administration, appealed to the warring sides to end the fighting.

"We have destroyed the bridges of internal reconciliation

with our bare hands," Hoss said in a letter published in the Al Diyar newspaper. "We know that our war is suicidal but despite that we're still fighting."

On the western side of divided Beirut, Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Butros Steir also urged a halt to more than five months of battles in which more than 780 people have been killed.

"What is the value of the human being in Lebanon when dozens of people are being killed and wounded every day as if it is something normal?" Steir asked in his Sunday sermon. "Despite assertions by envoys

that there will be no military solution in Lebanon, the guns are still thundering, shells are falling and Lebanon is burning," he added.

He was referring to statements by French and Soviet envoys who visited Beirut separately in vain attempts to seek a negotiated settlement to Lebanon's civil war.

France backs Arab efforts

A senior French envoy met Algerian President Chadli Benjedid Sunday and reaffirmed support for an Arab League commit-

tee trying to end the Lebanese crisis.

The Algerian news agency APS quoted Francois Scheer, Secretary General of the French Foreign Ministry, as saying he had confirmed "our complete confidence in the committee so that it can pursue its mission to resolve the Lebanese drama."

Benjedid and the kings of Saudi Arabia and Morocco were charged with seeking an end to Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war by an Arab summit last May. But the committee suspended its work in early August, saying it had reached a dead end.

## Sweden urges U.S. to speed up peace efforts

STOCKHOLM (Agencies) — Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson warned of an aggravated situation in the Middle East unless the United States speeds up the peace process, the Swedish national news agency TT reported Sunday.

"The United States has a strong interest in pursuing the dialogue" with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), "but there has to be rapid progress," Andersson said in an interview. "The situation (in the Middle East) will grow more critical the longer it takes to achieve a breakthrough."

The Dagbladet Nyheter daily Sunday quoted a foreign department official of the PLO as saying PLO leader Yasser Arafat has asked the Swedish government "to assume its responsibility and intervene" in the Middle East peace process.

The paper quoted Abu Hajlah as saying there has been no progress in the dialogue between Washington and PLO since it started in Tunis last year.

In the TT interview, Andersson warned that headline Palestinian factions would gain influ-

ence if the dialogue was broken off.

Washington agreed to open talks with the PLO after Arafat said he recognised Israel and denounced terrorism.

But in a recent statement, Arafat said the PLO may reconsider its more moderate policy if the United States and Israel do not respond positively to it.

"It is not in PLO's interest to change the decision (of moderation) taken at Algiers," Andersson said. "But I understand if they get impatient. It's remarkable that they have shown such self-restraint in spite of so many of their own being killed."

Asked if he thought Washington would allow Arafat to enter the autumn session of the U.N. General Assembly, Andersson said: "That I take for granted. It's not up to the United States to decide who appears in the United Nations."

Andersson is expected to travel to Egypt in two weeks to meet President Hosni Mubarak. He then plans to continue to Amman to consult with the Jordanian



Sten Andersson

leadership.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Sunday Israel would not ask the United States to stop Arafat attending the United Nations General Assembly.

"I don't think we have to initiate any appeal. First of all Arafat himself has to apply to them. But it is obvious nobody has to ask what our view is. We are against the whole connection between the U.S. and the PLO," Shamir told Israel radio.

Last year the assembly moved to Geneva when the United States — following an Israeli diplomatic initiative — refused to grant Arafat a visa to speak at U.N. headquarters in New York.

## Jordan rejects Israel's claim of 'infiltration'

AMMAN (I.T.) — Jordan Sunday rejected an Israeli claim that an "infiltration" had crossed Jordanian territory over the demarcation line and killed an Israeli reservist.

"No infiltration has taken place from Jordan," Information Minister Nasouh Majali was quoted as saying by international news agencies. "We have no proof that a civilian crossed the ceasefire line," he said.

"There are no trace on the Jordanian side of the line," he said. "Usually when someone crosses, we could figure it out. Either he crosses a certain fence or sometimes (leaves) a footprint... there's nothing."

According to the Israeli claim, a man in civilian clothes crossed the Jordan River from the northeast but south of the Sea of Galilee and attacked an Israeli patrol early Saturday, killing one soldier and wounding two others before he was shot dead. The man was not identified by the Israeli army. Though the alleged incident occurred early Satur-

day, the Israeli army did not announce it until late at night. It said the man was armed with a Kalashnikov rifle and a revolver.

In comments carried by the Associated Press Sunday, Majali said that the incident might be "part of the struggle" that the Israelis are facing — the 21-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The incident occurred early Saturday morning as a foot patrol passed near a communal farm on the demarcation line, 80 kilometres northeast of Jerusalem, the Israeli army said.

The man waited in ambush between the Jordan River bank and a fence, opening fire on the passing patrol, the army said.

Backup forces reached the area and during the exchange of fire, a soldier was killed and two others were injured. The soldier was evacuated to hospital immediately, the statement said.

"It was not a Jordanian soldier. It was a Palestinian..." an Israeli official told reporters.

## Rabin gives troops more freedom to open fire

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israel Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Sunday he was giving troops battling the Palestinian uprising greater freedom to open fire with live ammunition on suspected Palestinian activists.

He did not explain the new rules in details but his remarks to Israeli radio seemed to mean that measures already in force in the volatile and densely-populated Gaza Strip would soon apply in the occupied West Bank as well.

It was in the West Bank's largest town, Nablus, that troops raided a house Saturday and shot five "wanted" Palestinians, killing two and capturing the others.

Rabin said in a radio interview the raid was part of a new get-tough policy.

"Army forces will in the coming days get permission to act

according to regulations for using live ammunition when arresting masked suspects, day or night, and I believe we will succeed in taking care of them," Rabin said.

Palestinians in parts of the West Bank observed a commercial strike to protest against the Nablus killings.

In July, the army relaxed firing orders in the Gaza Strip, allowing soldiers to open fire on masked Palestinians if they resisted arrest.

Palestinian activists in the West Bank and Gaza Strip cover their faces in headscarves to avoid identification by the army.

They say troops in the Gaza Strip have opened fire on masked Palestinian stone-throwers, graffiti writers and enforcers of uprising orders.

Meanwhile, thousands of Palestinian workers from the

Gaza Strip crossed into Israel Sunday, easing a boycott of jobs called against new Israeli travel limits.

A steady flow of cars jammed with Palestinian men streamed through Erez, a checkpoint little used during a two-week strike called to protest at Israel's requirement they carry new entry identity cards.

Palestinian activists urged workers to remain at home beyond the two weeks demanded by graffiti on Gaza walls, but labourers said they had to leave for Israel to earn the money to make a living.

The boycott of jobs in Israel was called by the underground leadership of the nearly 21-month-old revolt to try to force Israel to stop issuing the new magnetic-stripped identity cards.

## Solidarity-led cabinet nearer

WARSAW (R) — Solidarity Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki is close to forming a government after agreeing to give the Communist Party more than two posts in his cabinet, Solidarity sources said Sunday.

They said Mazowiecki's proposals — for the first post-war Polish government not dominated by Communists — could be disclosed to Solidarity members of parliament by Tuesday.

Mazowiecki, a veteran Solidarity activist, is trying to knit together a coalition with the small Peasant and Democratic parties that would include the Communists.

However, working out an unaccustomed minority cabinet role for the Communists after their 45 years in power has proved a tough challenge for Mazowiecki

since parliament confirmed his nomination as prime minister Aug. 24.

He warned after taking office that Poland could plunge into civil war if the Communists were not given a sufficient role beyond the interior and defence ministries originally offered.

On Saturday he offered them an undisclosed number of additional posts at a meeting with party leader Mieczyslaw Rakowski, after Rakowski threatened to take the Communists into opposition if they were not offered enough ministries.

The deal agreed then has not been disclosed and Rakowski said detailed talks were continuing. But he told reporters the proposals were realistic and answered Communist demands.

Marian Orzechowski, leader of

Communist parliamentary deputies who will vote whether to approve the cabinet, also attended the meeting and echoed Rakowski's satisfaction.

Mazowiecki's offer "answers our proposal about the party having a share in the government which reflects its political force, a share which satisfies our party base," he said.

Solidarity sources say the Communists have pressed for the finance and foreign ministries. The Peasant Party also wants the Foreign Ministry.

However, political sources say it may go to the Communists under a deal giving Solidarity the committee for radio and television affairs, a cabinet post controlling the electronic mass media.

## Ligachev urges political action to end unrest

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Politburo conservative Yegor Ligachev has urged political action to stop the rising tide of Nationalist unrest in outlying Soviet republics but said the government must not be repressive or dictatorial.

As his comments were broadcast on television late Saturday, 100,000 people were demonstrating in the Azerbaijani capital of Baku for more autonomy from the Kremlin.

Ukrainian sources said almost as many people had rallied in four cities to demand changes in a draft election-law, while in Estonia, Communist Party activists gathered to discuss proposals to make the local party more inde-

pendent from Moscow.

Ligachev said political measures were needed to stop attacks on the party, the army, the KGB and the Soviet Union itself.

"Nationalists and separatists of various hues are actively working to disunite and weaken the leadership," he said.

"We must take measures. But not repressive measures, not dictatorial measures, but political measures," he said, adding that party unity must be restored.

Ligachev did not elaborate.

But as the former ideology chief and Kremlin number two, his words will be taken as a serious warning to the restive Soviet periphery, particularly the Baltic

republics, Transcaucasia and Moldavia.

His comments came a day after a similar call for action to stop unrest by former KGB chief Viktor Chebrikov and one week after a Central Committee declaration accusing those whom it called Baltic extremists of trying to tear the country apart.

Absent has been any direct public statement by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, which makes the warnings from less reform-minded figures like Ligachev seem all the more ominous to nationalist activists who fear a crackdown is in the making.

However, Ligachev may have been trying to calm fears that Moscow might use troops against

nationalist protesters with his comment that the government should not be repressive.

Supporters of the People's Front of Azerbaijan jammed the main square Baku and called a general strike to press political demands, an activist said.

The strike will begin Monday at factories, offices and schools throughout the southern republic to back demands including the recall of Azerbaijan's national parliamentary delegation and an end to direct rule from Moscow over the Nagorno-Karabakh region, said People's Front activist Aiden Amirbekov.

Meanwhile, TASS reported that Azerbaijanian authorities had rejected a declaration of in-

dependence by Armenian activists in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Also Saturday, a Ukrainian activist in Moscow reported that thousands of people gathered at rallies throughout that Soviet republic to criticise a republican election law.

Amirbekov estimated in a telephone interview that a million people jammed Lenin Square in Baku carrying blue, red and gold Azerbaijanian flags and banners with slogans demanding an end to interference by the Kremlin in the republic's affairs.

Officials at the republic's interior and foreign affairs ministries, reached by telephone, said they could not comment on the rally.



# Deadlock, repression and poverty spur uprising

By Paul Taylor  
Renter

## OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

Two words — deadlock and escalation — sum up the latest phase in the 20-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation.

"In the absence of a political initiative, the name of the next game is violence," said Radwan Abu Ayash, a Palestinian activist concerned by the mounting bloodshed.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said last week that Israel's proposal for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip had lost momentum, spurring a surge in violence by frustrated Palestinian militants.

Thirty Palestinians have been killed in the last two weeks. Israeli troops are using an increasingly free hand to shoot wanted activists while Palestinians are killing a growing number of alleged traitors in their midst.

Israeli officials seem content with the latest developments, particularly with any sign of Palestinians turning against each other. They are also comforted by a decline in international media coverage of the uprising.

Army commanders have been getting tougher, ordering mass arrests and allowing armed Arab collaborators to flaunt their guns as a warning to nationalist activists.

Behind defiant public statements, local Palestinian leaders barely disguise their gloom about short-term prospects.

They cite increased repression, the growing economic burden of the uprising and the reluctance of the United States to pressure Israel into making political concessions to the Palestinians.

"Things are not moving. We are settling into a long-term war of attrition," said philosopher Sari Nuseibeh, named by Israeli officials as one of the early leaders of the revolt.

"The peace process seems to be blocked on all sides, but maybe this is just temporary," he said.

In the Gaza Strip, Palestinians are locked in an apparently hopeless test of wills with the occupation authorities over new magnetised identity cards required to enter Israel.

Israeli officials are confident that hunger will force Gaza workers to end a boycott of jobs in Israel called by uprising leaders to fight the cards, imposed to deny activists the right to work in the Jewish state.

Although Palestinian leaders insist the violence is not out of control, moderate activists say they have been unable to stop a wave of killings of alleged collaborators.

"Our young heroes in the strike forces of the intifada (uprising) are taking hasty decisions out of inexperience," said Mahdi Abdul Hadi, head



Israeli police arrest a Palestinian youth for displaying a Palestinian flag.

of a Palestinian policy think-tank.

"The cream of the intifada is behind bars. There is a lack of communication, an absence of institutions."

Abu Ayash said factionalism, personal rivalries and some contradictory signals from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had fragmented the local Palestinian leadership.

After authorising local leaders to meet Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in July to discuss the election plan,

the PLO halted that dialogue in August.

The Tunis-based organisation is insisting Israel agree to the inclusion of at least symbolic representatives of Palestinians from outside the occupied territories in a delegation to negotiate terms for elections. Israel has rejected the idea and the United States shows no sign of backing the Palestinians on the issue.

Local Palestinian leaders nevertheless hope Washington will take some initiative to

break the deadlock, perhaps by granting PLO leader Yasser Arafat a visa to attend the forthcoming U.N. General Assembly session in New York.

Ghassan Al Khatib, an influential intellectual, said some political gain was required to advance the uprising.

"The intifada will lose momentum if the situation stays like this. Palestinians do feel an urgency to score a success on the diplomatic level," he said.

## Libya's grand celebration ends

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — Col. Muammar Qadhafi Saturday ended a grand celebration of his 20th year in power, festivities that emphasised the end of Libya's international isolation but illustrated some remaining diplomatic strains.

Western diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Moroccan King Hassan II, smudged the Libyan leader during festivities Friday, the anniversary of the Sept. 1, 1969 coup that overthrew King Idris.

Differences were also evident between Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat and Qadhafi. And a summit of five North African countries that Qadhafi had hoped to host did not occur.

The anniversary festivities, which lasted into the early hours Saturday, included an air show. A huge military parade and a variety of sporting events and dancing shows.

The celebration drew 19 heads of state, including Syrian President Hafez Assad, who travels abroad rarely. It also attracted the first top-level Italian envoy in five years and the highest-ranking Egyptian visitor in 12 years.

The guest list was testimony to Qadhafi's recent efforts to improve his international standing after years of isolation.

However, diplomats noted some tensions. Particularly with King Hassan. The king skipped the General People's Congress session that opened Friday's celebrations and then arrived at the nighttime parade 1½ hours late. Forcing it to halt briefly.

When Qadhafi welcomed the king in Tripoli Harbour. One of Hassan's top aides was shoved aside and had to "fight his way back to the king's side" on the Royal ship, the diplomat said.

But a Moroccan official, speaking on condition of anonymity, contended the king had not snubbed Qadhafi and had been too busy to attend all the anniversary events.

Some problems reportedly developed over a planned summit of the Maghreb countries discussing economic union — Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Mauritania.

## Afghan rebels demand seat at non-aligned summit

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghan rebels Saturday demanded the right to represent their country at next week's non-aligned summit, saying President Najibullah's government was illegal and a Soviet puppet.

A message to the summit host Yugoslavia said the seat should go to the Afghan Interim Government (AIG) proclaimed by the rebels in neighbouring Pakistan in February.

The message, made public in Islamabad by the rebels' news agency, was sent by Sibghatullah Mojaddidi, president of the interim government.

"I wish to point out the anomaly and injustice inherent in the occupation of the seat of Afghanistan in the Non-Aligned Movement by the illegal Kabul regime," it said.

"In accordance with the wishes of the Afghan people, I urge that this seat should be restored to their genuine representatives and that a delegation of the AIG may be seated at the forthcoming summit."

Najibullah left Kabul Saturday to join 101 other leaders in Belgrade for the four-day meeting, which begins Monday.

Kabul airport came under heavy rocket fire from the rebels during the day, causing flights to be cancelled and sending passengers without their luggage.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Kabul said at least 16 people were killed in the barrage on the capital.

Afghanistan is expected to be

one of the major topics at the summit.

Pakistan, which supports the rebels, has been fighting off a resolution on Afghanistan from a group of countries, among them its traditional rival India. This would call for an Afghan national unit government including Najibullah's People's Democratic Party (PDDPA).

The Mujahideen rebels have resisted pressure to compromise with the PDDPA, which they say is responsible for the deaths of more than a million Afghans.

Mojaddidi wrote to Yugoslav President Jancz Drazovsek that Najibullah's government was installed by a foreign power — namely the Soviet Union — helped by massive Soviet arms supplies and rejected by the people.

Most countries did not recognise it while the interim government had been awarded Afghanistan's seat at an Islamic foreign ministers' meeting in Riyadh in March, he said.

"The Afghan interim government provides a viable and acceptable political alternative to the illegitimate regime in Kabul," Mojaddidi wrote.

Kabul says the rebels' administration is a Pakistani puppet and even its supporters acknowledge that it has failed to win much credibility among Afghans inside and outside the country.

Kabul Radio, meanwhile, said the Mujahideen had killed a senator, Abdul Karim Aga, in Kunduz, northern Afghanistan.

on Aug. 24. It gave no further details.

At least 16 people were killed and 52 injured by more than 30 rebel rockets which smashed into the capital.

A lavish departure ceremony for Najibullah with military bands and attended by diplomats was held at the presidential palace in central Kabul and not at the city's airport where earlier a rebel rocket barrage killed 10 people and injured 22.

At least 26 rockets pounded the airport, which also includes a military airbase.

Most of the people killed in the airport were workers and airline personnel.

Government officials said it was the heaviest rocket attack against the airport in the history of the 10-year-old Afghan civil war.

Another eight rockets hit a bazaar in the centre of Old Kabul, killing six people, injuring 30 and destroying 14 shops in a huge blaze, according to the Afghan news agency Bakhtar.

The Western-backed Mujahideen were stepping up their actions against the Kabul government in an attempt to weaken Najibullah's position at the Non-Aligned Movement summit, government officials said.

Najibullah is expected to launch a diplomatic offensive at the summit to try to force the Mujahideen's chief supporters, the United States and Pakistan, to back a political solution to the war.

Diplomats predicted the rebels would increase their attacks and possibly even try to seize an



Afghan rebels load a Chinese-made multiple launcher before shelling government positions.

important town in the run up to the Belgrade summit.

Sources close to the government said the heaviest fighting was taking place around Khost, a strategic town close to the Pakistani border where last week rebels claimed to have launched a big new offensive.

The sources said the Mujahideen were within five kilometres of the town and that the airport had virtually ceased to function due to heavy rebel rocket and artillery fire.

Government officials said the airport was functioning normally but was coming under rocket fire.

"The town is teetering on the brink," one military observer said.

Acting Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Naqib Sameer said Friday that govern-

ment troops were struggling to retake two security posts near Khost that had been overrun by the Mujahideen earlier this week.

"The opposition wants to cover their previous defeats. That's why they have expanded the attack on Khost to show their might before the Non-Aligned Movement meeting," he said.

The rebels, divided by bloody infighting, have been under mounting pressure from their backers in the United States and Pakistan to show some kind of military success before the summer fighting season ends.

Heavy fighting was also reported around the holy city of Mazar-i-Sharif in northern Afghanistan and around Jalalabad, the country's third largest city.

## U.S. ready to block immigration of many Soviet Jews, paper says

NEW YORK (R) — Large numbers of Soviet Jews would be ineligible for admission to the United States as refugees under plans drafted by the State Department and other federal agencies, the New York Times reported Sunday.

The newspaper said a likely effect would be to channel many would-be immigrants to Israel.

In addition the administration of President George Bush is opposing bills passed by both the Senate and the House of Representatives that would make it easier for Soviet Jews to come to America as refugees.

The paper quoted unnamed State and Justice Department

officials as saying that allowing free immigration of Soviet Jews would impose immense resettlement costs on the U.S. government.

Soviet Jewish emigration rose from 8,155 in 1987 to 18,965 last year and appears likely to exceed 48,000 this year, the paper quoted government officials as saying.

Under the State Department plan Soviet Jews who have no relatives in or ties to the United States would become ineligible for admission as refugees, the newspaper said.

At least half of Soviet Jewish applicants fall into this category,

the paper said.

It said State Department documents showed that U.S. officials hoped there would be "direct charter flights to Israel" from Moscow for Soviet Jews who were ineligible for refugee status in the United States.

The New York Times quoted Israeli officials as saying they welcomed the prospect of tougher U.S. restrictions on Soviet Jews coming into America because it meant that more would go to Israel and the influx would strengthen Israel.

U.S. State and Justice Department officials were unavailable for comment.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

### Rafsanjani quits defence post

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, who played a key part in ending the Gulf war, quit his post as acting commander-in-chief of the armed forces Saturday. Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said Rafsanjani offered his resignation to supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, saying his new job as president left him little time for the armed forces. Khamenei, who succeeded Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini on his death in June, accepted the resignation, the radio said. Under the constitution Khamenei is the formal head of the armed forces. Rafsanjani, appointed acting commander in chief by Khomeini, persuaded the late spiritual leader to accept a ceasefire in the war with Iraq a year ago. Rafsanjani was sworn in as president last month. The Baghdad-based opposition group Mujahideen-Khalq said in a statement telecast to Reuters in Nicosia that Rafsanjani's resignation was linked to differences among rival factions in Tehran. The group said Revolutionary Guards leaders opposed Rafsanjani's defence policies and Khomeini's radical son Ahmad also had his eye on the top armed forces job.

### Turkey to reopen rail link to Europe

ANKARA (R) — Turkey was expected to lift its ban on European trains entering from Bulgaria Sunday imposed to stem the influx of ethnic Turks, the foreign ministry has said. "Assuming that Bulgaria will no longer board any of its citizens without entry visas, the train will be allowed to enter Turkey from Sept. 3," ministry spokesman Murat Sungar said. Turkey reimposed entry visa requirements for Bulgarian citizens on Aug. 22 and stopped the Munich-Istanbul train crossing the border three days later. "We can always resume the ban on the train if Bulgaria does not comply," Sungar said. Over 310,000 ethnic Turks from Bulgaria have entered Turkey since June when Ankara waived visa requirements for ethnic refugees fleeing what they see as forced Bulgarian assimilation.

### Israelis turned back from Mozambique

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli farm advisers trying to visit Mozambique this week failed to gain entry at the airport because no visas were waiting for them, the Israeli Foreign Ministry said Saturday. The three experts stayed overnight at Maputo Airport but a government official they were expecting to bring visas failed to appear. They flew to South Africa then back to Israel, ministry spokesman Motti Amichai told Reuters. Amichai said Israel did not know if the incident was a deliberate snub. Israel and Mozambique have no diplomatic ties and maintain contact only through agricultural projects.

### Murderer hanged in Syria

DAMASCUS (AP) — A 26-year-old man convicted of robbery and murder was hanged in a public square in the Mediterranean city of Latakia Saturday. The government daily newspaper Tishrin said the criminal, Shaaban Ibn Saleh Arabyeh on Dec. 10 last year lured Kamal Haidar to an empty lot, shot him dead with a 7 mm pistol and buried his body outside Latakia. Arabyeh, accompanied by his wife Kawkab, stole Haidar's car and \$25,000 Syrian pounds (\$13,000) the victim was carrying in a bag. Arabyeh tried to escape to Lebanon, but was arrested the day after the crime. Tishrin said the wife, who was lured unwittingly into the crime, was sentenced to several years in prison, but gave no details.

### Former Sudanese official jailed

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan's new military leaders Saturday jailed a senior member of the ousted civilian government for 40 years on corruption charges, state Radio Omdurman reported. Idris Al Banna, one of five members of the Supreme Council which acted as joint presidency, was the first member of the previous administration to be tried by the military junta led by General Omar Hassan Al Bashir. The council was disbanded after Bashir staged a coup against the government of Prime Minister Saïeq Al Mahdi on June 30. Banna was a member of Madhi's Umma Party. The radio said a military tribunal led by Colonel Abdul Wahab Ahmad Osman also confiscated Banna's personal wealth.

### Morocco denies hunger strikers dying

RABAT (R) — Moroccan authorities denied Saturday that three left-wing hunger strikers demanding political status were near death. Human rights activists said earlier this week the three men in hospital in Rabat after 75 days of fasting were now in an extremely serious condition and one or more could die at any moment. A fourth hunger striker died two weeks ago, sparking criticism the government was indifferent to their plight. The Moroccan News Agency (MAP) said that according to competent and well-informed sources, there was no cause for concern over the health of the hunger strikers. It said statements to the contrary were aimed at tarnishing the image of the country. The prisoners' action was intermittent and "hardly put their lives in danger."

### U.S. seizes Lebanese-owned jet

HARRISBURG, Pennsylvania (AP) — U.S. officials have seized a \$13-million Lebanese-owned jet and are weighing criminal charges against the crew and passengers because the plane landed without permission earlier this week at Harrisburg International Airport. Henry Brattie, deputy district director of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalisation Service office in Philadelphia, said the plane landed at the airport Aug. 27, after disregarding orders to travel to Philadelphia for immigration inspection. The plane had come from London. The Gulf Stream G-3 jet, which can hold up to 20 passengers, returned to Harrisburg again from Burbank, California, at which time it was seized and at least three occupants were taken into custody. Brattie said the occupants were aliens who failed to check in with immigration officials. He said the Lebanese passengers and crew showed "blatant disregard of the country's laws. We had no knowledge when they came in whether they were terrorists or fine, upstanding citizens." He said a subsequent investigation showed they were not terrorists.

## JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

**PROGRAMME ONE**  
15:30 Koran  
15:40 Programme review  
15:45 Children programmes  
16:00 Flying Doctors  
16:05 News summary in Arabic  
16:15 Local programme  
16:40 Programme review  
16:50 News in Arabic  
17:00 Arabic section  
17:10 Programme review  
17:20 Local programmes  
17:30 News summary in Arabic

**PROGRAMME TWO**  
18:15 Les Pique Assiettes  
18:20 Documentary  
18:30 News in French  
18:35 Weekly Sport magazine  
18:40 News in Hebrew  
18:45 Varieties  
18:50 The Golden Girls  
19:10 The Boat  
19:20 News in English  
19:25 Doc. on Belgium  
19:30 Shadow of the Noon

## PRAYER TIMES

06:47 (Sunrise) Fajr  
06:57 Dhuhr  
12:35 Dhuhr  
16:10 'Asr  
19:02 Maghrib  
20:22 'Isha

## CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish Tel. 610740  
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 625541  
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771351  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261  
Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751  
Assam International Church Tel. 685326  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 812252  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

## WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A slight rise in temperatures is expected and the weather will be relatively hot. Winds will be northeasterly moderate. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Min./max. temp.  
Amman 18/33  
Aqaba 25/38  
Dhahran 22/38  
Jordan Valley 24/38

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31.5, Aqaba 36. Humidity readings: Amman 25 per cent, Aqaba 50 per cent.

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

**NIGHT DUTY**  
AMMAN:  
Dr. Mawardi Al Qureini 776258  
Dr. Rami Al Mizawi 894778  
Dr. Adnan Zaghoul 896140  
Dr. Mahmoud Al Awad 741391  
Firas pharmacy 661912  
Fardous pharmacy 778336  
Al Asma pharmacy 637055  
Nasrallah pharmacy 635672  
Al Salim pharmacy 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy 644945  
Smeilani pharmacy 637660

IRBID:  
Dr. Marwan Habbab (-)  
Al Sharaf pharmacy 983258  
ZARQA:  
Dr. Yousef Awad (-)

## EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111  
Civil Defence Emergency 630341  
Rescue Police 199, 661111, 677777  
Fire Brigade 892228  
Blood Bank 775121  
Highway Police 843400  
Traffic Police 886590  
Public Security Department 638221  
Hotel Complaints 661176  
Water and Sewerage 897467  
Amman Municipality 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121  
Overseas Calls 010230  
Central Amman Telephone 621011  
Repairs 661101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101  
Jordan Television 773111  
Radio Jordan 774111  
Water Electricity Authority 815615  
Electric Power 626381  
Company 06-53200  
RJ Flight Information 06-53200  
Queen Alia Int. Airport 06-53200

## HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hamza Medical Centre 813813/32  
Khadiji Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6  
Akheh Maternity, J. Amn 644412  
Ibn Al-Nafis Maternity 623662  
Mallat, J. Amn 636140  
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4  
Shmeisani Hospital 669131  
Al-Munira Hospital 667277  
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/7  
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6  
Jalila, Al-Mahajra 777101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashraf 775117/6  
Army, Madra 891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50  
Amal Hospital 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071  
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732  
IRBID:  
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555  
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275  
Ibn Al-Nafis Hospital (02)247100  
AQABA:  
Sultan Baya Hospital (03)314111

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

## ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

10:00 Damascus (RJ)  
10:40 Suez (RJ)  
11:00 Athens (RJ)  
11:40 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)  
12:15 Montreal, New York (RJ)  
12:30 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)  
12:40 Istanbul (RJ)  
13:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)  
13:45 Cairo (RJ)  
14:00 Dhahran (RJ)  
14:30 Kuwait (RJ)  
14:45 Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
14:45 Larnaca (RJ)  
14:50 Calcutta (RJ)  
17:45 Cairo (RJ)  
18:00 New York, Vienna (RJ)  
18:15 Istanbul (RJ)  
18:45 Bucharest (RJ)  
19:10 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)  
19:30 Bangkok (RJ)  
20:45 Rome (RJ)  
21:15 Baghdad (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)  
09:30 Dubai (EK)  
10:10 Suez (LEI)  
13:00 Istanbul, Athens (TK)  
13:20 Baghdad (AF)  
13:25 Bahrain (GF)

## DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:30 Aqaba (RJ)  
11:00 Bucharest (RJ)  
11:40 Rome (RJ)  
12:15 Montreal, New York (RJ)  
12:30 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)  
12:40 Istanbul (RJ)  
13:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)  
13:45 Cairo (RJ)  
14:00 Dhahran (RJ)  
14:30 Kuwait (RJ)  
14:45 Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
14:45 Larnaca (RJ)  
14:50 Calcutta (RJ)  
17:45 Cairo (RJ)  
18:00 New York, Vienna (RJ)  
18:15 Istanbul (RJ)  
18:45 Bucharest (RJ)  
19:10 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)  
19:30 Bangkok (RJ)  
20:45 Rome (RJ)  
21:15 Baghdad (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)  
06:30 London (BA)  
10:30 Dubai (EK)  
11:10 Frankfurt (LH)  
14:00 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)  
14:05 Cairo (MS)  
14:20 Bahrain, Kuwait (GF)  
15:35 Suez (LEI)  
16:00 Baghdad (AF)  
19:25 Baghdad (AF)  
21:15 Paris (AF)

## MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in file per kg.  
Apple (golden) 600/550  
Apple (red) 600/600  
Banana 400/350  
Banana (Mukammal) 350/300  
Beans 320/280  
Carrot 350/300  
Cabbage 130/100  
Cauliflower 280/240  
Onion 220/180  
Cucumbers (large) 300/250  
Cucumbers (small) 300/250  
Eggplant 160/120  
Fig (green) 300/250  
Fig (blue) 1100/1000  
Garden 950/630  
Grape 320/250  
Grapes (red) 280/200  
Guava 380/300  
Lemon (yellow) 280/140  
Lemon (green) 220/180  
Tomatoes 140/120  
Marrow (large) 250/200  
Marrow (small) 450/350  
Okra 520/450  
Onion (dry) 240/200  
Peas 380/300  
Pepper (red) 180/140  
Pepper (sweet) 180/140  
Potato 450/400  
Radish 120/80  
Sweet Melon 300/100  
Squash 320/250  
Tomatoes 140/120  
Water Melon 200/100



## Decree approves amendment to consumption-tax law

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Sunday approving an amendment to the consumption tax law which imposes a JD 15 duty on each imported tonne of billet iron, the raw material for making construction steel bars.

The decree followed a decision by the cabinet to reduce customs duty on imported construction steel bars and reinforced bars from 25 per cent to 10 per cent so that larger amounts of this kind of material will be available for use in construction.

The cabinet also approved an increase in duty of half a dinar on each tonne of potash mined by the Arab Potash Company (APC), and imposed a tax of JD 25 on each tonne of scrap cast iron, aluminium or copper upon exporting them.

## Geneva meeting approves UNRWA commissioner general's draft report

AMMAN (J.T.) — An annual meeting by the advisory commission for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA), which was held in Vienna, has approved a draft report by the agency's commissioner general on the Palestinian refugee situation, according to Dr. Ahmad Qatanani, director of the Foreign Ministry's Palestinian Affairs Department.



Ahmad Qatanani

He told the Jordan Times upon his return to Amman from Vienna that questions related to the refugees' conditions in Lebanon and the occupied Arab territories were specifically discussed at the three-day meeting.

Also on the agenda was the question of UNRWA accepting the new educational system adopted recently in Jordan whereby the first secondary class will be named the 10th grade in a 10-grade compulsory stage at Jordanian schools, preceding the two-year secondary school stage, Qatanani noted.

He said financial issues and other problems were reviewed by the commission which comprises representatives from Jordan and 9 other nations.

The commissioner general's report is to be submitted to the

U.N. General Assembly meeting in its up-coming session, a practice adopted by the agency over the past 40 years of its existence.

The report normally sums up UNRWA's service in its fields of operations in the Middle East and presents proposals for raising funds to finance these activities.

Countries represented at the Vienna meeting are: Jordan, Belgium, Egypt, France, Japan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, the United States and the United Kingdom.

## NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

**ASSAD RECEIVES ALGERIAN ENVOY:** Minister of Higher Education Dr. Nassereddin Al Assad Sunday received Algerian Ambassador to Jordan Mohammad Borghani at the conclusion of his tour of duty. The discussions dealt with cultural and educational relations between Jordan and Algeria. (Petra)

**MINISTRY ANNOUNCES TRANSFERS:** Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Salem Masa'deh has transferred Karak Governor Fayez Abbadi as governor of Mafraq to replace Jamal Momani who was moved to the Ministry of Interior, Isma'il Dheman Al Zaben as governor of Karak, and Faleh Gharaibeh as governor of Balqa. (Petra)

**SYRIAN MINISTER VISITS PAVILION:** Syrian Minister of Awqaf Abdul Majid Tarabulsi has visited the Jordanian pavilion at the Damascus International Fair. The Syrian official toured all the sections of the pavilion and listened to a briefing on the industrial achievements Jordan attained in all fields. (Petra)

**ANTI-SMOKING CONFERENCE:** The second Arab anti-smoking conference continued its sessions Sunday and discussions dealt with a number of matters related to laws and legislations in the Arab countries to curtail smoking. The conferees, discussed matters related to establishing Anti-Smoking Arab Council. (Petra)

**YOUTH TEAM LEAVES FOR ITALY:** A Jordanian youth delegation Sunday left for Italy to participate in the fourth international meeting due to begin Monday. This meeting is designed to develop youth capabilities. The Jordanian delegation is led by head of the Public Relations Department at the Ministry of Youth, Mahmoud Al Qaisi. (Petra)

**KHAYYAT INAUGURATES NEW MOSQUE:** Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Dr. Abdul Aziz Khayyat has said that mosques are the places of education where all Islamic sciences used to be taught. Inaugurating the Imam Nawawi Mosque Sunday, Khayyat added that great ulemas who left behind remarkable achievements studied at mosques. He also reviewed the biography of Imam Nawawi and the role he played in serving Islam. Chairman of the Mosque Building Commission, Dr. Ali Sawwa, said that this mosque can accommodate 2,000 people and that it is built on a 1,050 square metre piece of land at the cost of JD 95,000. (Petra)

**BARGE TO TRANSPORT CEMENT TO EGYPT:** The Jordan Ports Corporation (JPC) board of directors have endorsed the agreement signed with the Arab Maritime Bridge Company which provides for operating a barge to transport Iraqi cement to Egypt via Aqaba. The meeting, which was chaired by Transport and Telecommunications Minister Hikmat Khammash, discussed the JPC's draft budget for next year. (Petra)

**FACILITATING ELECTION PROCESS:** All ministries and official departments will be asked to cooperate with governors to facilitate the process of elections, an official statement issued by the Prime Ministry has said. The statement added that this could be done by enrolling the employees of various government departments in the committees formed for this purpose and by providing transportation, the statement added. (Petra)

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

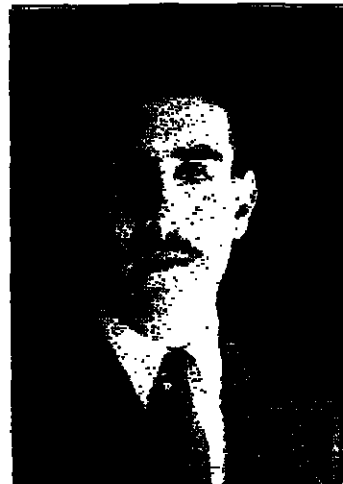
### EXHIBITION

- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artists Khaled Ghawamneh and Abdullah Kameleh, and the Syrian artist Wafaa Al Maat at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Jalal Orkhal at the Plastic Artists' Association.
- ★ A North Korean exhibition of photos, books and handicrafts at the University of Jordan.

### FILMS

- ★ A Soviet film week which includes films depicting life in the Soviet Union, at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ A French film entitled "Dernier Atout" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

## Prince Talal gets Masters Degree



AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Talal bin Muhammad has obtained a Masters Degree in international relations from Georgetown University in the United States, and has now joined the Armed Forces with the rank of

first lieutenant, according to an announcement here Sunday. It said that the Prince had first received university education at Harrow University of Britain, and later continued military studies at Sandhurst, before obtaining his Masters Degree.

## PSD committees to help in distributing subsidised fodder

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Security Department (PSD) has set up committees of police officers to cooperate with the Ministry of Agriculture in the process of distributing government-subsidised fodder to stockbreeders around the country.

A PSD spokesman said that 31 committees will be distributed to the various 31 centres set up by the Ministry of Agriculture to distribute the fodder and to prevent any manipulation.

Farmers wishing to benefit from the assistance, the PSD said, should provide authentic information to the committees so as to receive their allotted amounts of fodder.

The statement urged all farmers and stockbreeders to cooperate with the committees and provide correct information. The Ministry of Agriculture, meanwhile, announced that farmers are not bound by the agricultural cropping patterns

system, except for the tomato and egg plant crops, during the 1989-1990 agricultural season.

Tomatoes grown in the Jordan Valley and the highlands and eggplants grown in the Jordan valley should strictly abide by the pattern introduced in the country several years ago.

The statement also announced the ministry's scrapping of regulations concerning licences for greenhouses and plasticulture.

## ACC mayors hold talks on improving municipal services

AMMAN (Petra) — The Mayors of Amman, Sanaa, Cairo and Baghdad held talks at Amman Municipality Sunday on means of coordinating their efforts to provide better municipal services to the four capitals and toured a number of municipal projects in Amman.

A statement issued after the talks said that the mayors decided to approach the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) general secretariat to approve of a formula organising the work of the four capitals of the ACC states, within the council's general framework. They also agreed to coordinate their municipalities stand at regional and international meetings and in matters related to training personnel, in enacting laws and in

regulations and management.

The statement said that agreement was reached on entrusting the Greater Amman Municipality with the task of naming a liaison officer to coordinate matters between the capitals of the four ACC countries.

The statement included an expression of support by the mayors of Amman, Baghdad and Cairo to efforts undertaken by Sanaa to raise the standard of municipal services and improve the capabilities of its staff. They pledged to provide training to staff employed by Sanaa municipality to help achieve that purpose.

Following the meeting, the mayors — Mahmoud Sharif of Cairo, Khaled Rashid of Bag-

dad and Hussein Maisouri of Sanaa — were accompanied by Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh on a tour of a number of regions where they inspected work on services and improvements.

The tour took them to Al Hashemeh Square near the old municipality building in Amman, public gardens in a number of districts and also to the ancient city of Jerash and the Jordan Valley region.

The four mayors had a meeting Saturday with His Majesty King Hussein who conferred upon them Jordanian medals in recognition of their efforts to improve services in the four capitals of the ACC countries.

## ACC to step up cooperation in security matters and extradition

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Interior ministries in the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries are to step up their cooperation in security matters and in extraditing convicted persons to safeguard security, according to a statement issued in Baghdad following the conclusion of a meeting grouping the interior ministers of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and North Yemen.

The ministries of interior will cooperate in combating crime dealing with riots and violations

of laws and will adopt new regulations to ensure these operations, according to the statement.

The ministers, it said, recommended raising the level of training for personnel involved in security affairs, exchanging expertise related to security and unifying stands in regional and international conferences.

The statement noted that the ministers discussed and also recommended certain measures to help curtail drug trafficking, embezzlement, commercial and

economic crimes and currency forgery; and approved of the idea of holding seminars that deal with ways of combating crime in the four-member states.

The ministers recommended an increase in the exchange of visits by officials from the ACC countries and holding meetings by security officials every six months.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Salem Masa'deh represented Jordan at the meeting.

## ACC meeting to seek ways to boost operations, activities of cooperatives

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Work to boost the operations and activities of cooperatives within the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries will be discussed at a seminar to be held in Baghdad next month.

The three-day meeting, due to open on Oct. 14, will discuss five research papers on cooperatives, their role in socio-economic development and management.

The meeting, organised in

cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), will also deal with working papers presented by the four ACC members on their own experience in cooperatives.

Several regional organisations will be represented at the meeting.

Baghdad will also play host to a Jordanian industrial fair next month. It will be organised by the Jordanian Commercial Centres

Corporation (JCCC) in implementation of a decision by the joint Jordanian-Iraqi Higher Committee resolutions.

According to a statement here, the Jordanian fair will display products by 180 companies ranging from foodstuffs and pharmaceuticals to manufactured industrial items. Jordan-Iraq trade is estimated at \$900 million this year.

# 41 arrested for drug smuggling, peddling counterfeit currency

AMMAN (J.T.) — The security authorities in Jordan last month foiled further attempts to smuggle drugs into the Kingdom and aborted attempts to peddle counterfeit U.S. dollars, arresting 41 persons involved in these operations.

An official statement by the Public Security Department PSD said 32 persons, four of them Jordanians, were involved in eight cases entailing the trafficking of 575 grammes of hashish and 2,515 grammes of heroin in the second half of August, 1989.

The smugglers resorted to new methods to bring in their illicit products, concealed in rubber balloons or swallowed into their stomachs, while others hid the hashish in their shoes, the statement said. It noted that X-ray was used to help find the hidden drugs.

Also in the second half of the past month, police seized 750

cartons of smuggled foreign cigarettes of different brands, according to the statement which voiced appreciation for the assistance provided by members of the public thus helping to foil the smuggling attempts.

The PSD statement noted that a total of 13,800 counterfeit U.S. dollars were seized in the second half of the past month from nine persons, including five Jordanians, who were trying to sell them in the black market.

The persons seized in the seven counterfeit cases have all been referred to the court, the statement added.

Last month, the PSD released

details about attempts to smuggle drugs into Jordan and to peddle counterfeit U.S. dollars, and said 14 persons were arrested in these operations.

Smuggling cases, the PSD said, occurred late July and early August and involved a six member group of non-Jordanian Arab nationals who tried to smuggle heroin and hashish by hiding them in cars and clothes, it noted.

The statement said that the first few months of this year witnessed several attempts to smuggle drugs through Jordanian territory; and in June JD 300,000 worth of hashish was seized when a vehicle was checked upon crossing into Jordan from Syria.

In July a 25-year-old Egyptian drug smuggler died here shortly after arriving from Cairo after being poisoned by 200 grammes of heroin concealed in his stomach.



40 graduate from bibliography

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Al Majali Sunday urged the Jordan Library Association (JLA) to find means of encouraging the public to read more and said that books constitute an inexhaustible source of information. Addressing a ceremony for the graduation of 40 trainees from a course in

bibliography and indexing, organised by the JLA, the minister urged the association to use modern technique in its services and double its efforts to promote the work of public and school libraries in the country. The graduates include trainees from Jordanian, Saudi and Kuwaiti cultural organisations (Petra photo)

## Symposium discusses use of computers in agricultural projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Delegates from 10 Near East Regional countries including Jordan Sunday opened a 10-day symposium on analysing small agricultural projects by using computers.

The delegates will acquaint themselves with techniques involved in analysing the projects and agricultural programmes through the use of computers, and will concentrate on a case study of the Wadi Al Arab agricultural region in Jordan.

The symposium was organised by the Near East, North Africa Regional Agricultural Credit Association in cooperation with the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and the Economic and Social Commis-

sion for Western Asia (ESCWA).

Dr. Sami Sunnaa, the association's executive chairman, delivered the opening address in which he noted that the symposium was intended as a means to improve the performance of staff in the respective departments of the participating countries.

"The association has over the years provided help to member countries in training, planning and other fields necessary to improve agricultural production," Sunnaa said.

The work of credit organisations in the member countries primarily aims to improve the living conditions of small farmers through providing expertise and other forms of assistance, he

added. Sunnaa, who is also Ministry of Agriculture's secretary general, said that ESCWA and FAO are currently involved in preparing for a training course with the use of computers intended to organise the handling of information pertaining to credit organisations that have direct contact with the small farmers.

The course, he said, will be held in Cyprus in October.

Dr. Mohammad Nashrash Mustafa, the association's secretary general, outlined in a speech the achievements and activities of his organisation and future plans to help promote agricultural credit organisations.

## 5 states to discuss power interconnection plans

ANKARA (Petra, J.T.) — Ministers of Energy and electricity in Jordan and four other countries in the Middle East will open a conference here this week to discuss power interconnection plans.

The conference has been prepared for by a technical committee comprising representatives from Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Syria and Turkey, the five countries involved in the project, and the ministers are expected to endorse their recommendations.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the five states have already selected a consultancy firm to conduct a feasibility study and the Islamic Development Bank and the Arab Fund

for Economic and Social Development have allocated loans totalling \$500,000 to help finance the feasibility study and will also contribute towards the implementation of the interconnection project.

The project seeks to enable the five states to help one another in power exchanges and to pave the way for possible linkage with the

European grid at a later stage.

The five countries last January agreed to set up for the first time the power grid interconnection in the region. They also decided that Amman should host an office for the work of a technical committee affiliated to the project.

The project is expected to be carried out from 1991 to 1993.

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## University hosts N. Korean art exhibition

AMMAN (J.T.) — A North Korean art exhibition was opened at the University of Jordan Sunday. On display for four days is a collection of photographs depicting life in North Korea, handicrafts and other national art, in addition to a

collection of books. The exhibition was opened by University President Mahmoud Al Samra and attended by several university officials, as well as the North Korean charge d'affaires in Amman.



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## Neutral questions

THE WORLD has come a long way since that significant day in 1952 when a small group of international statesmen announced the birth of the Non-Aligned Movement. Staying clear of polarisation and superpower spheres of influence as well as helping each other without interfering in the internal affairs of any were among the declared policies of the movement, which today boasts of a membership of 102 countries including Venezuela, the latest entry. But, today, as leaders of the Non-Aligned Movement are opening a summit in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, all indications are that alignment with one or another of the big international powers is one of the major problems that impede realistic approaches towards international issues by the movement. If that was not all, nonsensical struggles for regional supremacy offer the perfect recipe for verbal fireworks and behind-the-scenes lobbying at a forum which was designed to settle problems rather than aggravate them. What a paradox!

The course of events at the Belgrade summit already seems to have been predetermined as far as some of the most vital issues are concerned, whether regional or international. It is widely accepted that parties supporting rival Lebanese factions are braced for a battle to let their viewpoints be known loud and clear to the forum and influence the course of decisions it is expected to take. Iran and Iraq are not in talking terms to each other despite the fact that direct negotiations are the most logical course after eight years of bitter and ferocious war which benefitted no-one but the arm merchants of the world. Fundamental differences over the nature of a final solution to the 10-year-old civil war in Afghanistan are poised to undermine all efforts to restore peace to that beleaguered country and its suffering people. The only areas with any form of consensus (for whatever it is worth) are the Arab-Israeli conflict, where the moderate Palestinian peace strategy is expected to be resoundingly endorsed, and South Africa, where sharply-worded denunciation of Pretoria's racial segregation policy will be renewed with fresh fervor.

Over and above everything, preoccupations with debt problems of individual member states have already cast a cloud over the summit, figuring high as a potential hazard in efforts to adopt realistic decisions on issues with heavy overtones of big power involvement.

It is not at all a bright picture that is coming to us from Belgrade. If anything, there is more grounds for fear that regional conflicts could be further complicated and distorted rather than simplified and steered into the path towards resolution.

Who could be counted on to assume the role of a neutral, honest mediator and tackle the Herculean task that faces the summit when it is clear that almost every member is somehow involved in some conflict or another? What hopes are there that some leaders will take the courageous initiative of rising above political squabbles and individual interests? That is the sixty-four-thousand dollar question facing the players as well as the audience when the curtains go up today in Belgrade.

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Sunday discussed the situation in the occupied Arab territories in view of an Israeli escalation of repression and the continued killing of civilians. Israel's stepped-up efforts to quell the intifada and stifle the resistance is being confronted with an escalation of resistance on the part of the Palestinian people themselves, said the paper. Such escalation on both sides is bound to lead to further dangers and calls for a development of the means of resistance on the part of the Palestinian population, the paper added. It said that the Israelis who continue to enjoy Washington's protection at the U.N. Security Council are assured of no drastic measure to deter them from pursuing their atrocities against the Palestinian people. The American veto at the Security Council is making it difficult for the world community to impose any sanctions or penalties on the aggressors and Zionist terrorists; and Israel is therefore maintaining its iron fist policy with all that it is entailing of repression against the civilian population, said the paper. But the world organisation should not remain paralysed and unable to take serious steps to stop such crimes in occupied Palestine. The U.N. Security Council ought to safeguard its own credibility and its reputation by embarking on meaningful measures to stop further aggression on the innocent civilian population of occupied Palestine.

Al Dustour daily also commented on the situation in the occupied territories where it said the stone throwers are more determined than ever before to drive out the invaders. The paper said that regardless of the Israeli measures and resolutions taken by the world community at the Security Council, the Palestinians are bent on pursuing the struggle to regain their freedom. Israel, added the paper, should recognise the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland, and should it maintain its repressive measures, the Palestinians have no alternative but to confront them and continue the course of struggle. The recent armed confrontation between Israeli troops and resistance elements in Nabulus is only one aspect of the ongoing struggle; and could be stepped-up and intensified at all fronts, the paper added. It said that the Palestinians are paying a high price with their own blood for their freedom but it is only through blood that legitimate rights can be regained.

Sawt Al Shaab daily also dealt with the situation in Nabulus following the armed confrontation between Israeli army troops and Palestinian resistance men. It said that the people of Nabulus seem to be determined to confront the barbaric invasion which has lasted for 21 years and never to kneel before the aggressors. There is no way that the Israelis can impose their will on the Palestinian people who can and will carry out the resistance in all forms other than stones and rocks, and at all levels, the paper noted. Perhaps, said the paper, the new development in the resistance activity inside Palestine will move the Arab states to take meaningful action that can help put an end to all Israeli atrocities.

## Nixon's shades of evil, Shamir's taboos

The following article is reprinted from the Israeli newspaper, The Jerusalem Post.

By David Krivine

RICHARD NIXON reveals in his recently published book 1999 — *Victory Without War* (Pocket Books, \$8.95) what went on in his head when he was president of the U.S. The book deals with the conduct of international affairs. It is well-argued and well-written. Everything he says makes sense — except for one *idée fixe*: his obsession with communism.

All agree that the system of government prevailing in the Soviet Union is bad: Gorbachev himself says so. Particular blame attaches to one brand of this ideology: Stalinism. Other versions can be less tainted. Alexander Dubcek of Czechoslovakia was a communist, and he meant well.

For many, the communist creed is to this day a shining ideal, and they are not entirely crazy. The record of capitalism in most of the underdeveloped countries is nothing to write home about. Wealth coexists with grinding poverty throughout Africa and Latin America. The social gap is so wide in a country like Brazil that the underdog despairs of ever bridging it. Understandably he responds to egalitarianism, and aspires willingly to calls for the abolition of the class system.

Yet communist regimes have done more harm than good, because they are authoritarian. The representatives of the proletariat, it turns out, represent only themselves. Central planning is still

lingly bureaucratic. On all these points everybody agrees with Nixon, but he goes further. He sees communism as something satanic, diabolic.

The grading of evil persons as devils originates in religion, but is all too common in politics as well. Its purpose is to make the population hate the enemy. You can come to terms with a fellow human, but there is no temporising with a fiend. When you are faced with that kind of creature, it can only be a fight to the finish.

As a rational man Nixon advocates hard bargaining with the Russians; as a traditionalist, he cannot help conceiving of the communist as a kind of Lucifer or Beelzebub. Detente to him does not mean making friends. "Real peace," he says, "is not an end to conflict, but a means to living with conflict." Or: "The U.S.-Soviet conflict is not a problem but a condition. A problem can be solved; a condition can only be treated."

He sees the world as divided between the goodies and the badies: "America wants peace, the Soviet Union wants the world." Nuclear deterrence is therefore essential. He explains: "Whether a defensive or an offensive power has nuclear superiority makes a profound difference. Superiority in the hands of a defensive power is a guarantee of peace; superiority in the hands of an offensive power is a threat to peace."

Defensive power means the U.S., offensive power means the Soviet Union. The two sides cannot help being that way, their characteristics are inbred. The American system is peace-loving by its very nature. The Russians' "totalitarian system cannot sur-

vive without expanding."

Can't it? The Russians make the same accusation against the West. Marxist dogma stipulates that "driven by its own contradictions" capitalism cannot survive without imperialism and colonialism. Yet the capitalist states have stopped expanding — why should the communist states be unable to do the same?

Now that the Russians are starting to throw off the shackles of the past one cannot help breathing a sigh of relief that Nixon is no longer America's head of state. His policy of absolute distrust may have been justified in Stalin's day, but Gorbachev is

something else. The new regime in Moscow has done enough positive things to deserve a measure of credit.

Something warmer than cynicism and suspicion is needed if the terrible chasm separating East from West is to be spanned. Nixon admits that the ordinary Russian is a human being; it is the communist, he maintains, who is a devil. Needless to say the Russians believe with equal fervour that the capitalist is a devil. Both sides exaggerate. Some communists (and capitalists) are admitted beyond redemption, but a man does not automatically belong to the nether world because of his

beliefs — provided they are genuine beliefs.

So it is with us and the PLO. Nixon's warning against Gorbachev (that we should not be taken in by his honeyed words) are reminiscent of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's warnings against the newly-moral Arafat. The difference is that Washington has to negotiate with the communists, because it has no one else to negotiate with.

We believe that we do have someone else to deal with: the elected representatives of the Palestinians. There is nothing wrong with that view; it is sensi-

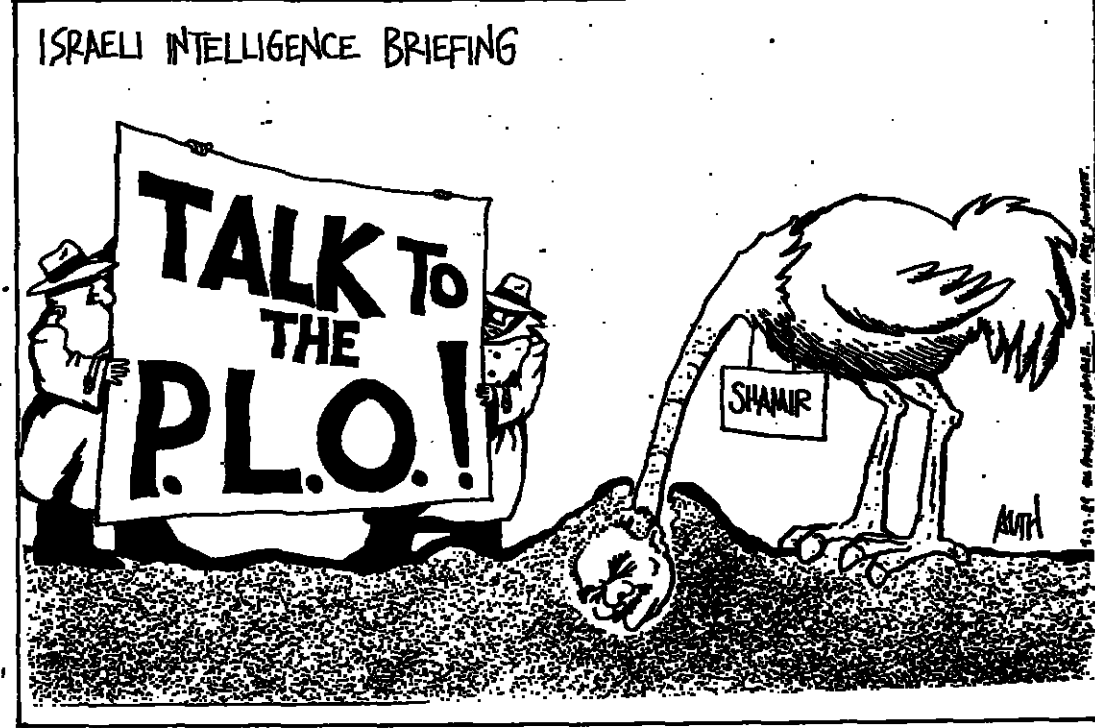
ble that we should seek moderate elements. The PLO have a long record of terrorism, and that is a criminal form of warfare. We can have legitimate reservations about using them as our prime bargaining partners.

What is crazy is our Nixon-like demonisation of the PLO, and we go further than he does. We brand the Tunis-based agency as something profane. Talking to them is taboo, lest we be defiled.

A law was passed in the Knesset punishing anyone who exerts changes words with members of that internal sect, and a further bill driving that point home has just been submitted by Tzahi Hanegbi. Israel's socialist deputy premier had to exclude himself from a conference of the Socialist International because a PLO delegate was there. Israelis attending a symposium abroad are stricken with fear that they may unwittingly shake hands with one of Arafat's incubi.

Being unable to prove they don't exist, we take refuge in declaring that they don't belong to the human race. If foreign government officials want to communicate information about the PLO to one of our diplomats, he is not supposed to listen. Nixon is less extreme than we are: he does not refuse to negotiate with his principal enemy. But he expects little out of the process. Even if the talks succeed, the enemy — he insists — will remain an enemy.

His attitude, if adopted in the White House today, would not advance the cause of peace with the Soviet Union very far. Blackballing the PLO will not advance the cause of peace in the Middle East either.



## After Paris, a new war in Cambodia?

By Peter Eng  
The Associated Press

HANOI, Vietnam — The failure of the Paris peace talks a month before Vietnam's final troop pull-out has forced Cambodia to a crossroads. Ahead may be more low-level fighting and arduous new diplomacy, or a more violent and chaotic phase of the 11-year war.

In the 19-nation gathering that ended Aug. 30, negotiators failed again to resolve the key issue in the current conflict: The long-standing hostility between the Vietnamese-installed government and the Khmer Rouge, the largest group in the three-party guerrilla coalition.

The co-hosts of the Paris conference, France and Indonesia, are to begin consultations within six months to arrange a second round. Other diplomatic initiatives will continue, and key mediators, Thailand's Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan, said Aug. 31 he will arrange new talks.

Interviews by the Associated Press with two dozen officials in Vietnam and Cambodia produced a wide range of possible scenarios for the months ahead. It is certain the nature of the conflict will change in some way after Sept. 26, when Vietnam says it will withdraw the last of its 26,000 soldiers, whatever happens in Cambodia.

That could usher in some months of battlefield testing, and especially increased attacks by the Khmer Rouge, which killed hundreds of thousands of people before Vietnam invaded in late 1978 and ended its rule. The pullout comes at the start of the dry season, when combat usually intensifies.

The Khmer Rouge responded to Vietnam's pullout of 50,000 troops in 1988 with new attacks to try to seize strategic areas, said Gen. Tran Cong Man, editor of the official Vietnamese army newspaper, Quan Doi Nhan Dan. He reported major fighting since late December in the area of Pailin, in western Battambang province bordering Thailand. He said the guerrillas were trying to establish there a "liberated zone" and competing government of the country.

"Sometimes they temporarily occupy some points but later they are thrown back," at Pailin, Man said in an interview. He said it was at Pailin at the beginning of this year that Vietnamese troops last participated in significant infantry combat.

Man predicted that after Vietnam's pullout, the Khmer Rouge also will target two other provinces bordering Thailand, Koh Kong and Siem Reap.

"The Khmer Rouge think that if they can occupy these three provinces, they can reverse the situation," he said.

Vietnamese and Cambodian officials insist the guerrillas pose no real threat to the Phnom Penh

government, and will eventually dissipate if China and Thailand reduce military aid, as they have indicated they will. Man said the Thai army already has halted artillery and reconnaissance aircraft support for the Khmer Rouge.

In an interview, Phnom Penh's Vice Prime Minister Kong Sam-ol said his government couldn't resolve the impasse because "we have given all our concessions." But diplomats say Hanoi and Phnom Penh still want a political settlement because only that can guarantee an end to the international isolation that has stunted their economies.

Most non-Communist nations are likely, for the moment, to continue to recognise the resistance coalition and shun the Phnom Penh government, hoping for an overall political settlement. China and the United States have made increasingly clear they want an acceptable settlement — not just a Vietnamese pullout — before considering normalisation of relations with Vietnam.

"Everybody says (the Paris forum) was a conference on Cambodia but for the superpowers it also was a conference on Vietnam," said a Western ambassador to Hanoi who requested anonymity. "Maybe they thought it was not the time for Vietnam to be brought back into the international community."

Yet some diplomats are saying, for the first time, that it is possible that Australia, Thailand and other nations will recognise the Phnom Penh government even without a political settlement if it holds internal elections and can hold off the Khmer Rouge.

The success of the diplomacy ahead may depend on whether the main resistance leader, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, and his key backer, China, retreat from their argument that the Khmer Rouge will fight whatever government is established unless it is allowed to share power. Phnom Penh opposes any role for the group.

This argument, which the United States endorses, is "strange," said Dang Nghiem Bai, head of the North American affairs department of Vietnam's foreign ministry.

"Suppose you live on a ranch in the United States. A group attacks you and someone says that to stop the attacks, you must let them share the ranch with you. And not only that, but to share power, to manage the ranch with you. Absurd."

The Western ambassador said Vietnam's Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach told him that based on his talks with Chinese officials in Paris, it appeared Beijing would budge on the issue.

"Thach had the impression the Chinese would move to a position of a kind of participation by the Khmer Rouge, but not as complete a role as before," the ambassador said.

By Abakar Assidikh  
Reuters

N'DJAMENA — Chad and Libya have agreed to end their 15-year-old border conflict but it is now up to the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) to make the accord work.

"Signing an agreement does not mean that all the problems are solved," Chadian Foreign Minister Achekikh Ibn Omar told reporters on his return to the capital of N'Djamena.

Achekikh, who signed the peace pact in Algeria with Libya's Foreign Minister Jadhalla Azouz Al Talhi, said the OAU ad hoc committee on the conflict would be responsible for finishing the task.

He gave no details on the agreement, which proposes settling the dispute over the Aouzou strip by international arbitration unless a political solution is found within a year.

Chad and Libya have been fighting for 15 years over the Aouzou strip, which covers 114,000 square kilometres in the heart of the Sahara desert.

Libya annexed the territory, supposedly rich in minerals, in

## Chad-Libya peace accord leaves ball in OAU court

1973. It bases its claim to Aouzou on a treaty that was drafted in 1935 but was never ratified by the colonial powers, France and Italy.

"A political solution to the Aouzou question still seems a long way off but everyone involved would like it to be settled in Africa by Africans, preferably the OAU," one West African diplomat said.

Achekikh said details on application of the Algeria accord would be worked out at a more technical level. "It creates a framework for a peaceful means of resolving the conflict."

"We think that Libya has been rather reticent until now," he said. "This commitment after so

much hesitation by our Libyan brothers is in itself a sign that there is a political will."

The minister praised the role played by the OAU and other African countries in the accord. Diplomats said Algeria had been working on the plan since Chad's President Hissene Habre visited the capital Algiers in March.

Habre met Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi last month for the first time in Mali at a two-day summit which was also attended by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid and three other African heads of state.

That meeting was supposed to be the culmination of mediation efforts but it broke up without an accord being signed.

Since a ceasefire was declared in September 1987, the two countries have restored diplomatic ties and made a number of peace overtures.

To reach the Algiers accord, Libya appears to have dropped a demand for the withdrawal of French troops and combat planes from Chad.

France sent aircraft and troops into Chad in 1983 when Libyan troops crossed into Chadian territory. The 1,500-strong Operation Sparrowhawk force helped Chad in 1987 to push Libyan troops back into the Aouzou strip in fighting in which thousands of people were killed.

Chad in return seems to have agreed that Libyan troops stay in Aouzou for the time being. A diplomatic source said the two sides gave each other one year to solve the conflict before turning to the International Court of Justice at the Hague.

The pact calls for Aouzou to become a demilitarised zone if the dispute goes to international arbitration. It also proposes an exchange of prisoners of war between the two countries and an end to media attacks on each other, the diplomatic source said.

By Mark J. Porubcansky  
The Associated Press

KISHINEV, USSR — Behind the slogans and political manoeuvres highlighting ethnic tension in Soviet republics is the hurt and confusion of transplanted Russians who fear they will be uprooted from their homes.

As colonisers, exiles, scientific and economic specialists, Russians have been settling in Moldova, the Baltics, and other non-Russian areas for more than 100 years — both before and after the 1917 Bolshevik revolution.

Now, as the Soviet Union's minorities review decades of Communist rule, much of their anger and frustration is directed at the Russians next door.

Russians, who today comprise about half of the total Soviet population, never needed to learn the local language of the areas they settled. But in a society that is becoming rapidly polarised by demands for greater local sovereignty, language has become the first and greatest indicator of who is who.

"Today it's a law on language, tomorrow on citizenship and the day after on residency," Russian language teacher Raisa Kochetova complained to the Moldavian Supreme Soviet, or legislature, as it began its debate recently on a law making Moldavian the official language of the republic.

The Baltic states adopted language laws early in their quest for independence, then began restoring their national flags, establishing immigration restrictions and declaring economic and political sovereignty. Estonia even has set strict residency requirements for voting and running for office.

No nationalist group has called for Russians and others to be thrown out of their republics. In Latvia, the independence movement is taking applications from ethnic Latvians, Russians, and everyone else for citizenship in an independent republic.

But some immigrants are wor-

## Russian often have roots, too, in republics

ried that ethnic protesters will turn some of their slogans demanding that Russians leave into the policy of powerful new political movements.

"We read stories about apartheid in South Africa, where people are barred from any work except manual labour if their skin is the wrong colour," said 45-year-old Pyotr Zalozhnikov, a Russian worker and member of a strike committee in the Moldavia city Tiraspol.

"This is what this law would do to all people here who are not Moldavian. In one day we'll be made deaf-mutes. Our children

will have no future," he said by telephone.

Non-Moldavian workers are feeling the same pressures as non-Estonians did in that Baltic republic. They reacted the same way, by walking off their jobs.

In both republics, less than 40 per cent of the population is non-Moldavian, including Russians.

Zalozhnikov echoed the concern for his children expressed by Nikolai Chugunov, a 42-year-old Russian who has lived in Estonia for 33 years. Although he was not affected by the residency require-

ments approved by the Estonian government, he said he was worried about what steps officials would take next.

Mihai Gimpau, one of the top officials in the Moldavian People's Front, said in an interview that a language law would mean nothing for the average worker. "For workers, life won't change at all," he said.

But ethnic leaders insist their language must be the official one, partly to demonstrate the view that their lands were taken by force and partly to preserve the language and culture from the encroachment of Russian.

The republics' painful history of incorporation into the Soviet Union makes many people regard the Slavic population with suspicion.

When hundreds of thousands of Estonians, Lithuanians, Latvians and Moldavians were shot or deported as Stalin extended his control over their lands in the 1940s, they were replaced by Slavs who the dictator regarded as more reliable.

Ethnic activists argue that the immigration has continued since then, either as a predetermined policy to weaken the local population or to take advantage of better living conditions on the Soviet Union's western frontier.

In 1903, Pyotr Shornikov's grandfather, a factory worker, was exiled to Moldavia for participating in a strike. He stayed there when Moldavia became part of Romania after World War I.

Shornikov has lived in Moldavia all his life, became an historian, and says he speaks fluent Moldavian. A Russian, he is one of the leaders of the group Yedinstvo, which is fighting for the rights of non-Moldavians.

He rejects the argument that Moldavia is being inundated with a new wave of immigrants. Kishinev, the capital city, was about 47 per cent ethnic Moldavian in the years 1850-1890, compared to the 43 per cent Moldavia population now, he said.





# After three thousand years graffiti lives on and on

By Philippe Chevalier

PARIS — To the north of Paris, on the edge of the Hallette forest, the small town of Vernon has a museum which is unique in Europe. Some 2,700 graffiti, lovingly assembled, tell the story of three thousand years of the history of man with his joys and his sorrows, his dreams and his fantasies.

This collection was born of the passion of one man for that popular and spontaneous art form, graffiti, the primitive form of communication. Nothing preordained Serge Ramond, aged 65, to become a seeker of signs left by the hand of man.

"It came to me quite by chance, thirty years ago," explains this former supervisor in the chemicals industry who has become a "marginal historian" as he puts it. I was visiting the collegiate church of Saint-Leu-d'Esserent, in the Oise department when I came to a stop in front of an elegantly-shaped boat carved on the wall in the 18th century. The sad, grey stone came vividly to life through the play of light on the naïf picture. It

was love at first sight.

Thus began a passionate quest for this graffiti from the past. Serge Ramond travelled over Europe searching citadels, windmills, monasteries, bellfries, mediaeval torture chambers and the deepest dungeons.

"Since Antiquity, man has only thought of leaving a trace of his transitory passage," says Serge Ramond. "In these, there is a heritage which deserves to be studied and protected."

As the "graffiti man" could not resolve to only enjoy these precious carvings fleetingly, he developed an impression technique for reproducing them. It consists in placing a sheet of plasticine on top of the engraving. The impression obtained comes away easily without leaving a mark. He then pours plaster onto the impression in order to obtain a positive copy.

In the Roman catacombs, Serge Ramond made mouldings of pictures drawn by the first Christians waiting to be tortured. In the prison cells in the fortress of Loches, in the Touraine re-

gion, and in Saint-Jacques church in Dieppe, he copied battle scenes. In Selles Castle in Cambrai, he discovered carvings, which are striking with realism, of the torture inflicted on heretics in the 15th century.

The fortress of La Rochelle offered him an 18th century treasure, left on the walls by the English sailors captured by privateers: crests, ships in full sail, Puritan poems dedicated to his British majesty, and homesick thoughts of a captive dreaming of home.

Here is the signature of two lovers leaving a trace of their visit to Septmonts castle: Victor Hing and Juliette Dronet. There is the booty gleamed in the keep in Clemon, in the Oise department, which had become a prison for women last century. One of them had recorded the tender feelings she bore one of her companions, in the stone, decorated with intertwined hearts. "Berthe from Grenelle loves Paulette from La Chapelle". From the trenches on the Chemin des Dames route, in the Aisne de-

partment, Serge Ramond has brought back graffiti or bas-reliefs made by French and English, German and American soldiers in the Great War. Between two assaults, they engraved a homage to the glory of their regiment, or else they evoked the memory of a missing comrade or a loved woman.

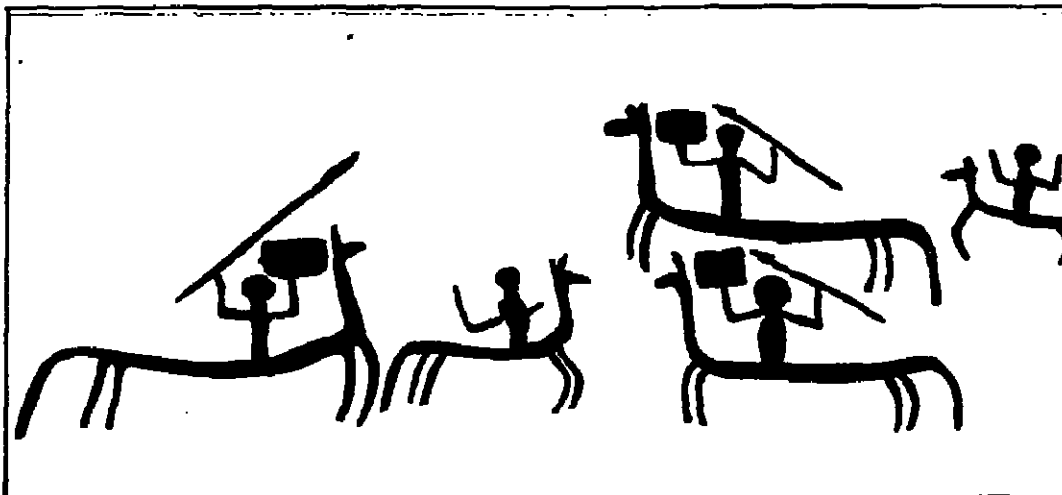
Cave drawings, galleys and hanged men offered up to the beaks of crows, stars, crosses, sexual symbols, cabalistic labyrinths, enigmatic drawings, maxims, and fragments of rhyme are all humorous or desperate, comical or tragic messages. Just like bottles with messages thrown into the sea by unknown characters from past centuries. There are

bawdy ones and erotic ones, even risqué ones such as this epitaph dating from the 16th century, discovered in Bonaguil castle in the Lot-et-Garonne department: "Here lies a poor wretch who was hanged and had an erection. A passing monk who saw him in this position thought he wanted to fuck death."

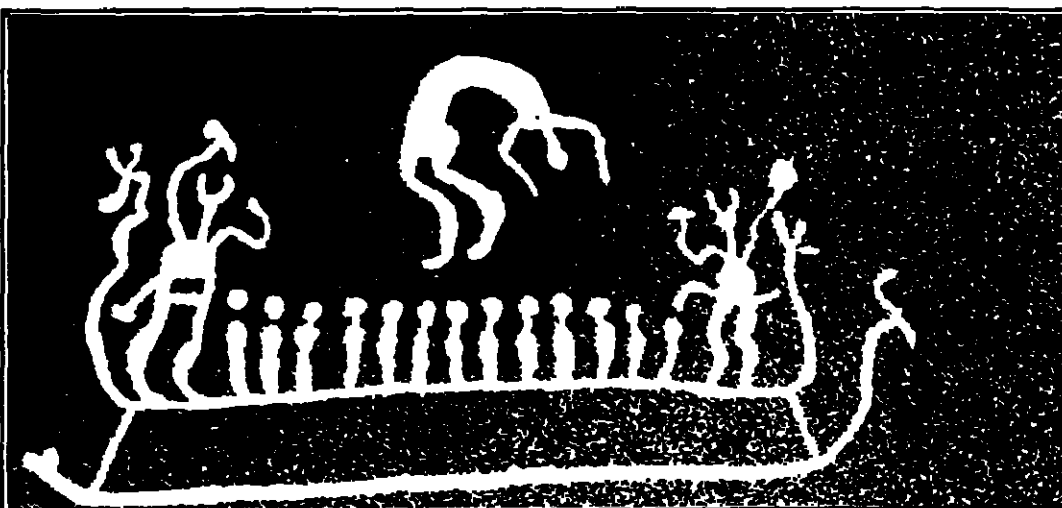
Each discovery of a graffiti fills Serge Ramond with deep joy: "How can one escape the strange poetry of these messages which have withstood the test of time and been coloured by moss and lichen? This petrified souvenir always leads one back to the same question: what kind of person hides behind this graffiti? A lonely walker, a vagabond marking his passage, a watchman indulging in his pastime, or a prisoner seeking to beat boredom or anguish?"

Who was the captive about to be released who, in his cell, carved out "Farewell prison. I curse you, I have no wish to return"? Which philosopher left the following adage in a tower in Burgundy in the 16th century: "Trust in yourself and beware of everything?"

The visitor can see, with astonishment, how the preoccupations of man have remained the same from the Bronze Age to the 20th century: religion, politics, love, eroticism, a taste for gambling and the fascination with death — French features



Ingraved graffiti from the Iron age



Ingraved graffiti from the Bronze age

At 43, on Top Of The Pops.

## For some life is a song

and father respectively. Frankly, Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr owe her a hefty debt for putting the turbo-charging into what might otherwise have been a night of frumpy, overpriced nostalgia.

Yet while Liza admits that "my whole life I've sung songs that were written before I was born," she's also a keen rock and country fan, citing Springfield, Bono, Ed Lane, Michael Jackson and (incredibly) Guns N' Roses as special favourites.

Nor is the Liza/Pet Shops liaison without recent precedents, with the combination of diva and gadgetry also seeming to be oddly felicitous. Shirley Bassey and Swiss technician Yello created the weird fusion of The Rhythm Divine. Tom Jones went out and hired the Art of Noise to go with his tuxedo, and hip-swivelled back into the charts with Kiss.

Out to Liza with a Z, wearing all black and curled up on a sofa in the Savoy. She hears my thesis out, but isn't buying. "Yeah, but Tom Jones always had a rock'n'roll career. Shirley Bassey was a big record star. I've never been a big record star. I never had a hit record. actually, 'It's funny, at 43, to go on Top Of The Pops'."

She talks in brightly coloured bursts divided up by hoarse cackles of laughter, her observations pummeled into shape with exclamations and audible italics. She's used to being feted for TV specials, stage musicals and big movies like Cabaret and New York New York, but is still tickled pink by this latest visitation of success. Her new album is called, provocatively, Results.

The Pet Shop Boys, Liza? "I heard a song called Rent about a year and a half ago, and I thought now who wrote that? Cos the words are wonderful and it's a beautiful melody, and yet it's got a good beat to it, and that's what

attracted me to Neil and Chris [Lowe], the lyrical content of what they write."

Liza smiles a "God, isn't it obvious?" kind of smile. "So when I signed with CBS and they said who do you wanna work with, I said well, I really like the Pet Shop Boys! And they went WEAT! and I said well they write wonderful songs, they really do. They'll write with this kind of violent beat underneath and on top of it they put these Gregorian chant melodies and these rather poetic words, and their songs are always about something, even if it's a cynical look at something. And I like that."

She won't be the only one who likes it. Results is a canny illustration of modern pop technique steeped in a rich tradition of musical theatre. Liza's treatment of Rent sounds like a song from a Sondheim show, triumphantly ironic. Her version of Sondheim's Losing My Mind sounds like the Pet Shop Boys. Her reading of Tamara Tikaram's Twist In My Sobriety (a favourite song of Neil Tennant's) resembles an East European funeral dirge, with an iron foundry in operation nearby. The entire project is both a technical feat and an audacious imaginative leap.

"One of my major ambitions was to do this record," Liza goes on. "It was a big change and a big risk for me to take, and I loved doing it. It's real when you're successful doing one thing, and it's real tempting to stay there. But then you get to a point in your own life, in your own self, when it's OK to risk. It's OK if people don't like it. When they do like it it's just phenomenal, and that's what's happening to me right now."

You might think that with war-dresses groaning with gongs, awards and 57 varieties of statuet-

te, La Minelli might sometimes be tempted to rest on her laurels and take a break. She says not.

"I think in all the movies we see or the portrayals of people winning something, they always win it at the end of their life. D'ya know what I mean? It's weird when you win everything when you're 24. But every award is for a specific thing that you've done, so you just sort of go on. You think oh good, what can I do now? You were good in that particular piece, it's not like you're the best ever. At least that's the way I look at it."

She's sceptical about criticism, in any case. "Even if the reviewer is a wonderful human being, I don't wanna do my show for him if he's had a bad piece of fish that night, ya know what I mean? For my career to depend on his mood, let alone the backer's money, doesn't seem fair." Everything in Liza's career seems to have occurred at three times normal speed. She's still only 43, and she made her first movie, Charlie Bubbles, 21 years ago. Her first public performance was in an off-Broadway show called Best Foot Forward in 1963, yet even before that she had played in plenty of theatrical rep, or "stock."

"I did a lot of learning," she recalls. "I worked a lot before anybody really saw me. But I was still so young when I started. People think I'm 112!" She cackles incredulously.

She didn't want to take advantage of her parents, she says, they were Judy Garland and Vincente Minnelli, so she headed East from Hollywood to Broadway. "I like live performing, and I like the idea that there's a backstage and everybody talks to each other and it's like a family and that's probably from being so isolated as a kid when we started to travel. I never wanted to be out there

alone.

"You grow up with these wonderful people and all of this incredible talent around you, and you see what's good and what's bad. Just your environment shows you what's terrific, so you develop an eye early."

As her performing skills evolved, her musical vocabulary grew to span several generations. To the Cole Porter and Gershwin and Harold Arlen she'd always known were added The Beatles and Dylan. She vividly remembers first going to see Charles Aznavour perform when she was 17, and what a turning point it was.

"I thought it was the greatest thing I'd ever seen! That somebody could sing a song and it was like a little movie, that each piece had a life of its own, that it was acted. It's miraculous! He does a song called In My Chair, where there's a wife singing about losing her husband at a party, sitting there watching another woman taking her husband away. I loved all that."

"The only real concert performing I'd ever seen was like Frank Sinatra, a very American style of performing, which I admired, but I didn't think I was terribly good at. Because I liked Broadway, I liked characters. So when I saw Aznavour do that, I thought oh now, wait a minute. That's the way to do it."

The recent shows with Messrs Sinatra and Davis were, she says, like "performing with your family." Sinatra had been a friend of her mother's for years. Davis was almost part of the furniture.

"They wanted to re-do those evenings they used to have in Vegas that are legendary and everybody has heard about, with the Rat Pack. Sinatra, Sammy Davis, Dean Martin, Joey Bishop, Peter Lawford, that whole group of people. The Guardian

## City of eternal spring is world's most violent place

By Alberto Arebalos

Reuter

MEDELLIN, Colombia — A heady mixture of cocaine and murder, tinged by religion and the tango, powers Colombia's city of eternal spring, where the arrogant wealth of drug barons sets the tone.

The bucolic title given the first settlement here in the 17th century by Don Pedro Portocarrero Y Luna, count of Medellin, finds little echo in this bustling industrial and textile centre of two million people.

Medellin is now a household name for cocaine and the world's murder capital, with 17 killings a day.

Inhabitants show a dedicated passion for the tango, perhaps because a legendary Argentinian Tango singer, Carlos Gardel, died here in an air crash in 1935.

Medellin is the base of one of two Colombian cartels — the other is Cali, further south — believed by U.S. officials to control the smuggling of up to 80 per cent of the cocaine consumed in the United States.

From this unlikely centre, 1,540 metres high and ringed by formidable mountains northwest of Bogotá, ruthless men run a multi-billion-dollar cocaine business — and their wealth dwarfs the city and its surroundings.

Colombians have glimpsed the drug barons' sometimes surreal taste since the government of President Virgilio Barco declared war on them Aug. 18 after the murder of a leading presidential candidate, a judge and a police chief.

Troops and police have seized nearly 11,000 people and about 200 palatial homes of suspected cocaine traffickers and their relatives, as well as cars, yachts and

weapons.

El Aguila (the eagle) estate, about 80 kilometres north of Medellin, is one of the sumptuous residences belonging to Pablo Escobar, reputed leader of the Medellin cartel who, most local residents assume, has fled the country.

Perhaps to give his ranch a religious touch — the drug barons like to be seen as devout Catholics — Escobar had a huge altar built in the lobby.

Standing on a crystal base three centimetres (two inches) thick, a life-size crucified Christ, flanked by big candles, greets visitors.

The fortress-like mansion has cavernous rooms with marble floors or wall-to-wall carpeting. It has a swimming pool and a 15-metre-wide satellite dish.

The reputed leaders of the Medellin cartel came from humble origins and long cultivated a populist image as champions of the poor. Escobar served as an alternate member of parliament for several years.

But military sources said local attitudes towards them have changed and Medellin residents last week helped the army pinpoint houses belonging to cartel leaders.

In another impounded property, a 20-room medieval-style castle owned by a man said by the army to have links with the Medellin cartel, the chapel contains gold ornaments and stained glass windows.

A Bible is open at a page exhorting Christians to shun vices.

In another room, apparently used for pagan rituals, a crystal bowl, tigers' teeth and about 30 religious statues among plates of apples and oranges formed a macabre altar.

Minnelli and the Pet Shop Boys

By Adam Sweeting

WHAT do you give the woman who has three Tonys, one Oscar, two Golden Globe awards and an Emmy? Why, a hit single, of course. Epic Records confidently expects Liza Minnelli's treatment of Stephen Sondheim's Losing My Mind to hit number one within the next fortnight. It's the first public display of La Minnelli's collaboration with the Pet Shop Boys.

On the face of it, Liza and the Boys is not a plausible combination. Unless you're an fan with Neil Tennant's clandestine dreams of Broadway. The Boys

are the acme of the modern pop duo, pitting flexibility and intelligence against market expectations and music-biz norms. They have chosen to remain enigmatic behind a labyrinth of visual imagery and the absurd range of choice now available from studio machinery.

By contrast, Liza is an old-fashioned extrovert, synonymous with both old Broadway and Hollywood in its most lavish technicolour plumage. Her most recent appearances in Britain for the so-called Ultimate Event found her sharing a stage at the Albert Hall with a couple of guys old enough to be her grandfather

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# Non-Aligned Movement to seek debt relief for poorest nations

**BELGRADE (R)** — The Non-Aligned Movement summit will appeal to the developed world to write off the debt of the world's poorest nations, diplomats said Saturday.

But the appeal will be tempered by differences between Latin American countries and Africa over an external debt estimated at around \$1.3 trillion, the diplomats said.

External debt drained \$143 billion from Third World coffers between 1984 and 1988 — \$43 billion in 1988 alone — according to a draft document on debt to go before the four-day summit opening Monday.

The document suggests setting up a debtor's forum to exchange experiences and strengthen negotiating positions and called on creditor governments and international financial institutions not to restrict further loans to major debtors but to limit the cost of debt servicing to a percentage of export earnings.

"As far as the debt of the least developed countries is concerned, writing off and forgiveness of debt, combined with lower interest rates and new highly concessional loans are essential," it says.

The 102-member Non-Aligned

Movement include some of the world's poorest countries such as Bangladesh, which owes \$9.5 billion, Cameroon (\$6.5 billion) and Congo (\$4.7 billion).

Diplomats said African countries were pressing for a major Non-Aligned initiative on debt in Belgrade but Latin American countries, who between them owe \$401 billion, preferred to use the International Monetary Fund and in some cases the commercial banks to negotiate a settlement directly.

"This is not the right forum for debating the debt problem which should be discussed with creditor nations rather than among debtors," Peru's Foreign Minister Guillermo Larco-Cox told Reuters Saturday.

Peru, a member of the Non-Aligned Movement's debt com-

mission, takes a hard line on debt repayment, refusing to use more than 10 per cent of export earnings on debt servicing.

Venezuela, which owes \$29 billion, is expected to take a moderate line and Argentina also felt the movement was not the right forum to pursue a campaign on the issues, Latin American diplomats said.

Argentina tops the Non-Aligned league of debtor nations with \$60 billion.

Despite the Latin American opposition, Zimbabwe, the outgoing chairman of the movement, is expected to unveil a debt plan for Africa pressing multilateral agencies and other governments to take a moderate line on repayment and debt rescheduling.

## China warns of credit crunch

**PEKING (R)** — Chinese leaders warned of a credit crunch and the need for belt-tightening in the face of mounting foreign debt — and blamed the problems on deposed Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang.

"The whole country must undergo a period of austerity," vice-premier Yao Yilin was quoted as saying in the official People's Daily.

"We are facing severe financial problems. We have no choice but to vigorously raise revenue and cut spending," he emphasised.

He also said the problem was created over a long period of time and that the incorrect guidance of the leadership — an apparent reference to Zhao — was to blame.

Yao made the remarks to a meeting of senior members of the nation's parliament and his theme was echoed by Finance Minister Wang Bingqian.

"Our financial problems are still unresolved," Wang said as saying in the Liberation Army daily.

"Next year we will enter the peak period of foreign loan repayments and our days will get even tougher," he noted.

The army newspaper quoted Wang as telling parliament delegates that government revenue was unable to keep up with rising spending.

"Our big error was to ignore the socialist economic principle of

maintaining a balanced budget... this has a direct link both to the errors of Zhao Ziyang and mistakes in macro-economic strategy."

Zhao, a reform communist who was once top leader Deng Xiaoping's closest ally, was ousted in June after losing a bitter power struggle with party hard-liners.

He has since been blamed for errors ranging from splitting the party to causing inflation.

China has about \$40 billion in foreign debt and Western and Japanese bankers have become increasingly anxious about the country's ability to repay when many of the loans mature in the early 1990s.

"It is significant that they are finally saying the crunch is coming," said a Western diplomat. "But it may be they want to pile more blame on Zhao Ziyang."

Yao, a conservative economic specialist with close ties to hard-line premier Li Peng, also said China must obtain more low-cost foreign credit to tide the country over this period.

"We must actively seek low-cost, long-term loans from foreign governments and international organisations," he said.

An austerity programme begun a year ago helped moderate raging inflation that reached 25.5 per cent in the first half of this year, according to Yao.

He said consumer demand was

still rising too fast and criticised many local governments for resisting Peking's drive to cut spending.

China must also strengthen its efforts to tighten tax collection to help adjust the budget imbalance, he said.

In another area, China announced a steep rise in domestic air, rail and boat fares Saturday, prompting fears that inflation may again rampage through the economy.

The Peking Evening News quoted government spokesman Yuan Mu as saying passenger fares for rail, boat and air transport would be raised an average 112 per cent, 96 per cent and 77 per cent respectively from Sept. 5.

Yuan was quoted as saying the move was necessary to relieve "extreme difficulties" in a transport system where run-down facilities threatened safety.

"Not only do (transport systems) lack the ability to accumulate funds and develop. They also lack the ability to support basic replacement production so that equipment deteriorates day by day and safety is endangered," the newspaper said.

Exasperation with inflation throughout China was one of several causes of massive anti-government protests that were crushed by the army on June 4 with many deaths.

Since then, China's leaders

have championed stable prices as their top economic priority.

Despite an austerity programme started a year ago, prices surged 25.5 per cent during the first half of 1989.

Peking residents reacted with surprise to the fare increases and said they feared another inflation spiral.

"I thought prices were supposed to be stable. Maybe this means other prices will rise," said one fruit seller at her market stall when advised of the price increase.

Regarding tourism, China has reported a dramatic drop in the number of foreigners who visited the country in July.

The official China Daily quoted the State Tourism Administration as saying about 1.8 million foreigners, including tourists and business people, arrived in China in July, a drop of 33 per cent compared to the same month last year.

The number of tourists visiting Peking dropped by more than 90 per cent. The capital has been under martial law since May.

Tourists and other foreign visitors are a major source of foreign exchange, which China needs to import technology and high quality raw materials vital to its industrial modernisation.

Tourism plummeted in June after the army crushed student-led democracy demonstrations in Peking.

### ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

#### Hilton to manage Taba hotel

**CAIRO (R)** — Hilton International will take over management of the luxury hotel at Taba, the Red Sea resort once disputed by Egypt and Israel, a spokeswoman for the hotel chain has said.

Nazma Rafia, public relations manager for Hilton in Egypt, said the company would take over from Sonesta this week. Rafia told Reuters that Hilton, which has four hotels in Egypt, won a tender after Sonesta said about four months ago it wanted to pull out of Taba.

#### 22 banks sue Norway over K.V. loans

**OSLO (R)** — A group of 22 foreign banks have said they were suing the Norwegian state for some \$84 million they say is owed after state arms firm Kongsberg Vapenfabrikk (K.V.) went bankrupt in 1987.

"The creditors claim that the state, as owner of (K.V.) took part in company management in a way which directly contributed to the economic crisis which arose," the banking group said in a statement.

Norway's industry ministry has rejected earlier demands from the banks for negotiations on the subject. The banks, which issued a writ in Oslo's city court, are suing the industry ministry, former members of the board and the former managing director.

#### Iran wants \$1.5b compensation

**NICOSIA (R)** — Iran will allow Japanese contractors to leave a stalled joint petrochemicals project in return for \$1.5 billion, the official Iranian news agency IRNA has said.

IRNA quoted deputy oil minister and managing director of the National Iranian Petrochemical Company Ahmad Rahgozar as telling Kayhan newspaper that a "friendly settlement" would be reached if a Japanese consortium led by Mitsui and Co. Ltd. paid the sum.

Iran wants to finish the Iran-Japan Petrochemical Co. complex at Bandar Khomeini which the firms say is uneconomic. Rahgozar said the firms have agreed to pay \$500 million of Iranian debt to Japanese banks, and have unofficially agreed to pay Iran a further \$500 million.

#### Turkey sees very low growth

**ANKARA (R)** — Turkey's GNP growth rate will slump to a mere 0.2 per cent in 1989, the lowest rate in eight years, the State Institute of Statistics (SIS) has said.

A major factor pulling growth below Turkey's 2.5 per cent population growth rate was the worst drought in 60 years. Famine output would be 10 per cent lower than 1988, it said.

Turkey, normally a grain exporter, was forced to buy five million tonnes of wheat and feed grains this year after a drop of more than 20 per cent in its own harvest, Turkish officials say.

## 'SAAB struggles'

**STOCKHOLM (R)** — Sweden's SAAB, which successfully applied the principles of aircraft building to cars, has plunged into a deep crisis which some analysts say could threaten its survival as an independent company.

The SAAB-Scania Company, which also makes trucks and aircraft, lost one billion crowns (\$150 million) on cars in the first half of this year and is expected to show a similar loss for the second half.

"These latest figures just confirm everybody's worst suspicions. The real question is whether, by cutting the workforce and rationalising, the car operation can make itself viable. I'm not sure it can," said analyst Mary Foster of London brokers Ark Securities.

After a board meeting last week, the company announced that it would reduce its workforce by a further 500 in addition to the 1,500 jobs that SAAB said it would eliminate last June.

The Svenska Dagbladet newspaper quoted an unnamed company source as saying that management was pinning all its hopes on talks with the U.S. Ford Motor Co. which the Swedish company hoped would step in some kind rescue package.

"A 'no' from Ford would mean the end for SAAB," said the source. Neither SAAB nor Ford would comment.

SAAB began as an aircraft firm. The word "SAAB" is the Swedish acronym for "Swedish Aircraft Shareholders Company."

Its first car, unveiled in 1947, was built by aircraft engineers and had for its time a uniquely aerodynamic design. It merged with Scania Trucks in 1969 to become SAAB-Scania.

Trucks have been the mainstay of company profits in recent years. Some analysts believe these too may have peaked and are concerned about a downturn of sales in Brazil, SAAB-Scania's largest single market for trucks.

The core of SAAB's problems, according to analysts, is that it is just too small. The company produces only around 115,000 cars a year and its models lack the firm market identity established by its perennial Swedish rival Volvo.

After thriving in the mid-1980s when the dollar was strong, the company has been hard hit by the contraction in the U.S. market and has cut prices drastically to keep stocks down.

"The car division can't go on the way it has up to now. They need some kind of cooperation," said analyst Hakan Filipson of Baring Securities.

Inevitably, with a company in difficulties, questions have been raised about the current management and especially chief executive Georg Karunad.

Ark Securities' Foster said: "In this situation, one would expect heads to roll. They usually do in Sweden."

According to Swedish press reports, Ford has been pressing for a majority stake not only in the car business but in the company as a whole.

But Peter Dupont of UBS Phillips and Drew doubted whether either side really had an interest in such an agreement and the Swedish government was likely to object to the prospect of SAAB's sensitive military divisions falling into foreign hands.

"A joint venture deal is a more likely possibility. But otherwise, I see SAAB just struggling on. The whole history of SAAB cars is one of struggle," he said.

## Strikes, terror hit Sri Lankan economy

**COLOMBO (R)** — Sri Lanka's economy is deteriorating fast and only a quick end to widespread strikes and terror can halt the trend, diplomats and businessmen say.

As the Indian Ocean island struggles with strikes called by the left-wing People's Liberation Front (JVP), Sri Lankan businessmen and foreign diplomats warned that the government needed to win its murderous conflict with the organisation quickly or the economy could collapse.

"There is a total production breakdown," said one of Sri Lanka's most prominent businessmen. "An economic collapse has to happen if this disruption continues."

"We are living from day to day. You cannot run an economy on that basis," he noted.

Using terror tactics to back its strike calls, the JVP has tried to create economic anarchy to undermine the government's authority and pave the way for its overthrow.

A recent five-day strike severely hit private and state businesses throughout the country, disrupting transport and port activity and stopped work on many of Sri Lanka's important tea and rubber estates, particularly in the JVP's traditional stronghold in the south of the island.

The central bank governor said the effects of the strikes varied from area to area.

"A strike of two to three months without a break would be disastrous," Neville Karunatilake told Reuters in an interview. "But a strike of four to five days can be tolerated."

He dismissed rumours circulating in Colombo, that Sri Lanka's foreign exchange reserves only covered two weeks of imports as totally incorrect.

And there was no prospect that the former British colony would have to join other Third World nations and reschedule a foreign debt he put at around \$4.2 billion.

"There is no need for Sri Lanka to reschedule. We can meet our debt service commitments without considerable difficulty," Karunatilake said.

He said Sri Lanka's burgeoning garment industry had been the

principal sufferer from the wildcat strikes and orders had been lost. Exports of tea, rubber, coconuts and gems had less pressing export deadlines, he stated.

He added that industrial output during the first half of 1989 was only two per cent down on the same 1988 period and forecast that Sri Lanka's real gross domestic product (GDP) — the total value of goods and services produced in a country — would rise 3.5 per cent this year from 2.7 per cent in 1988.

Karunatilake also expressed confidence that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) would release the second tranche of a \$187 million structural adjustment facility which diplomats say is crucial because of a serious balance of payments situation.

The fund gave \$40 million as

the first tranche in March 1988 but did not release the second tranche of \$87 million due last March.

Talks between IMF and Sri Lankan officials ended in Colombo last Monday and "the impression the IMF delegation will give its board is certainly not unfavourable," Karunatilake said.

The diplomats and businessmen said the central bank's confidence in the island's economic future was exaggerated.

A United States embassy report on Sri Lanka's economy released in July put real GDP growth this year at 1.5 per cent.

World Bank-sponsored talks on new aid pledges to Sri Lanka to be held in Paris in October could be affected by the country's escalating death toll, diplomats said.

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2. Same as above. Available 3 furnished bedrooms.

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### ARABIC FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

The Language Centre at the University of Jordan announces that the intensive course in modern standard Arabic for speakers of other languages will commence on Sept. 15, and will last for 16 weeks.

The programme is intensive and classes meet in the morning for 20 hours per week, Saturday-Wednesday. The fee for the Course is JD 140. The evening course is non-intensive and classes meet six hours per week.

Those interested please call at the Language Centre for registration.

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A newly built villa consists of 3 bedrooms, living-room, large salon with dining room, modern large kitchen, 2 bathrooms, telephone and garage.

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### ANNOUNCEMENT

Qualified firms are requested to contact MBS Project before Sept. 6, 1989, to tender for services for project management information system. Final tender date is Sept. 14, 1989.

For information call 647601.

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Furnished or Unfurnished

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For more information please call Wael Real Estate Tel: 685342.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Sunday, September 3, 1989  
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	606.3	612.3
Pound Sterling	943.4	952.5
Deutschemark	306.1	309.2
Swiss franc	853.4	859.0
French franc	90.8	91.7
Japanese yen (for 100)	414.7	418.8
Dutch guilder	271.9	274.6
Swedish crown	90.8	91.7
Italian lira (for 100)	62.7	63.1
Belgian franc (for 10)	146.7	148.2

### JORDANIANS HOLDING AMERICAN OR CANADIAN NATIONALITY

Required for a Saudi Arabian Company, Mechanical or Electrical Engineers to work as Service and Maintenance Engineers for Safety Equipments, Automatic Sprinklers, Fire Fighting Equipments and Protection Equipments.

Only qualified people, please call: 633451.

### ARABIC LANGUAGE COURSE

The General Federation of Jordanian Women is pleased to announce the resumption of Arabic language classes classical and social for foreigners in Jordan.

The course starts Saturday, Sept. 16, 1989, at the Federation's headquarters on Jabal Hussein.

Registration starts Sept. 4.

Monthly payment: JD 10.

For further information please call Tel. 666897

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420

Danny Devito  
Joe Piscopo  
in  
**WISE GUYS**

Show: 3:30, 5:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **ALJODAI** Tel: 675571

Clint Eastwood  
in  
**DIRTY HARRY IN THE DEAD POOL**

Show: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420

**RED SCORPION**

Show: 12:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00







## East Germans await their fate

EAST BERLIN (R) — While hundreds of East German stream out of Hungary to the West, 116 others are entering their second month camped out in West Germany's diplomatic mission in East Berlin hoping they too can emigrate soon.

But Western diplomats say there is scant chance East Berlin will soften its view that the refugees in the mission annex, and 244 in West German embassies in Prague and Warsaw, can only be assured freedom from prosecution if they return home.

The East Berlin refugees, who like the others refuse to leave unless offered exit papers, appear to have settled into a routine four weeks into their cramped stay in a two-storey building normally used for functions and new conferences.

West German diplomats tell the 116 it would be better to leave but say they would never force them out of the mission, closed since Aug. 8 to stem the flow of refugees.

A recent glimpse of the "modest guests", as one source described them, shows they are kitted out in new tracksuits and make the most of the last summer sunshine in the courtyard where some of the 12 children among them play.

Parents read West and East German newspapers or books given by staff. They all watch

television to follow the latest twist in the crisis, hoping a solution in Hungary, where thousands of East Germans are waiting to emigrate, could help them.

The diplomats say those in the mission are aware their position is desperate yet are scared to leave, despite East German assurances they will not be victimised.

Mission sources say the East Germans are making the most of their resources. Doctors, computer experts and a teacher are among the refugees as well as craftsmen and skilled workers.

Cooking and washing up are done by rotation and families eat in shifts, enjoying meals agreed the day before and then prepared with food shipped in from West Berlin by mission workers.

On Monday the eight or nine school-age children will start classes, taught by the German teacher. Some of the adults have been learning English or working out in an aerobics class.

Others play table tennis or flex muscles on an exercise machine. Extra showers and toilets have been installed.

The long-stay visitors, who mostly arrived with little more than a toothbrush, have presented mission employees with novel tasks.

One was recently sent across the Berlin Wall to buy 50 bras in various shapes and sizes.

## Fierce fighting strikes Angola

LISBON, Portugal (AP) — Government troops and U.S.-backed UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola), rebels were fighting a fierce battle for control of the south-eastern Angolan town of Mavinga, the Portuguese news agency, LUSA, reported Saturday.

In a report from the Angolan capital of Luanda, LUSA cited unnamed Angolan sources as saying government advance units had reached the outskirts of Mavinga after more than a week of heavy fighting.

Both sides suffered heavy losses, LUSA quoted the sources as saying. Government forces lost three Soviet-built MiG-23 combat airplanes and a Gazelle helicopter, the report said.

According to the report, UNITA's determined resistance to the government attack indicated Mavinga holds a vital strategic position in the defence of the rebel's bush headquarters at Jamba.

However, the Luanda sources said government fighters had managed to cross three rivers regarded as natural barriers to the advance on Mavinga and were threatening the town. LUSA reported.

The rebel Voice of the Black Rooster radio station reported government troops near Mavinga Monday were retreating towards the town of Cuito Cuanavale, 150 kilometres north-west of Mavinga.

Government and rebel officials estimate hundreds of people have died in the latest clashes, which followed the breakdown of a June 22 truce in Angola's 14-year civil war.

Sealed by a handshake between President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and rebel chief Jonas Savimbi at a summit of African leaders in Gbadolite, Zaire, the truce effectively collapsed after only a week.

Peace talks mediated by Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko continued, but Savimbi formally renounced the truce June 24 after seven African leaders, including Mobutu, endorsed Dos Santos' call for the rebel leader's "temporary and voluntary retirement" from Angola during a reconciliation process.

Savimbi met in Pretoria last Sunday with acting South African President F.W. de Klerk, and said afterwards he would welcome the resumption of peace talks as soon as possible.

## Hungary premier urges party split

BUDAPEST (AP) — Premier Miklos Nemeth Saturday urged Communists burdened with past mistakes to leave the party, saying those who cannot accept reform should feel free to split off into new political groupings.

Nemeth had been considered sympathetic to reformists even before he declared his outright support for them Saturday at a dinner given by the "reform circles" congress.

"The party is not a goose that it should have (only) two wings," Nemeth declared. Defending the right of different communist factions to have their own opinions.

Also Saturday, the party newspaper Nepszabadsag published comments by Ferenc Berenyi, a ranking official of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Communist Party, in which he said his group was not seeking to split away "but we will become a party if necessary."

The reformist congress, which is planning strategy for a full party congress Oct. 6, made public a draft letter to the congress urging a break with traditional Communism and calling it a "historical dead end."

After more than four decades of single-party rule, the Communist leadership endorsed the concept of a multi-party democracy in February and agreed to hold free elections by next June.

These and other changes have put the country on the forefront of economic and political reform in the Soviet bloc, and have created tensions with some neighbours that cling to traditional and rigid Marxist systems.

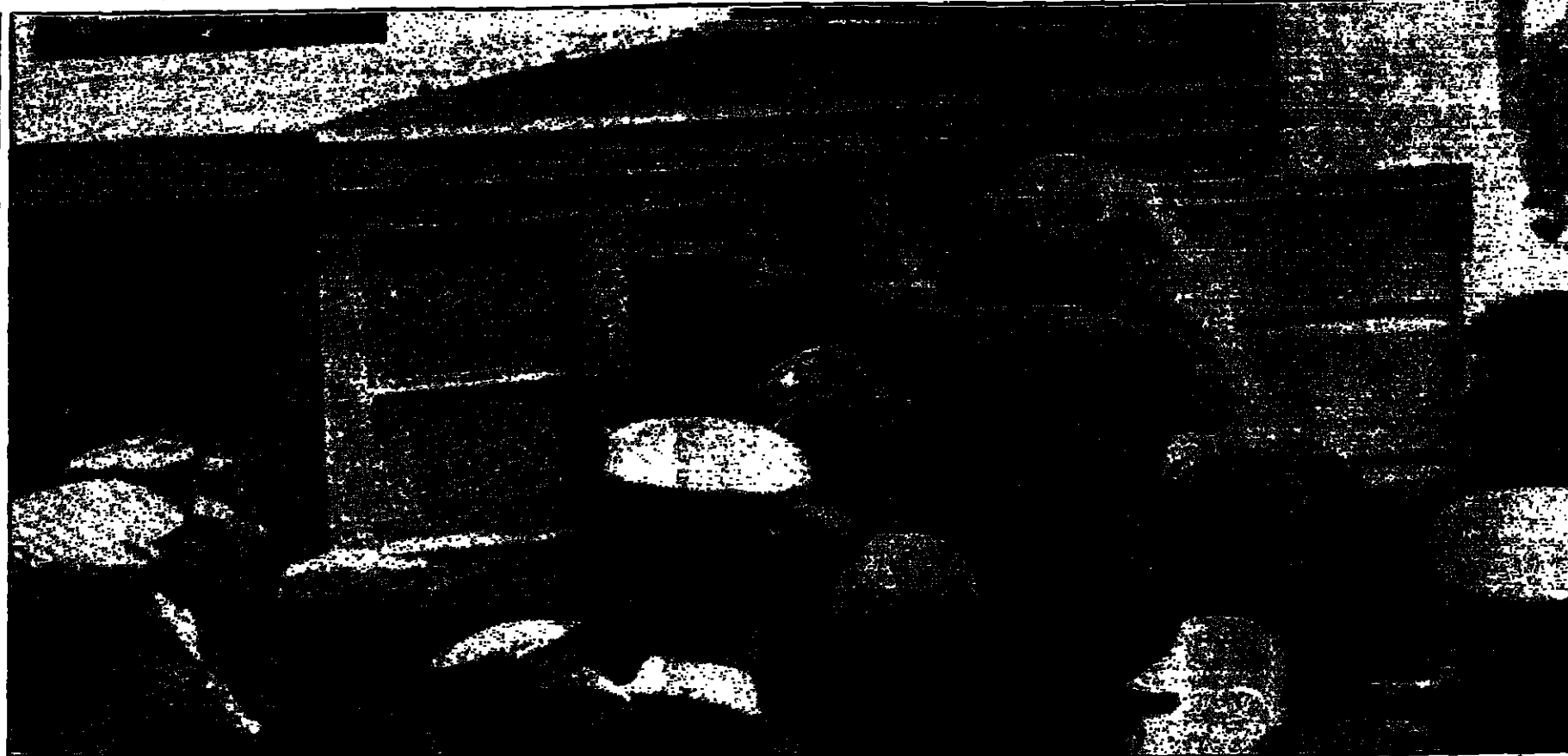
However, reformists also have run into opposition at home from orthodox Marxists. Centrists have adopted some policies of both wings, with all factions laying down their positions in preparation for the October congress.

Partly because of the infighting, the party has diminished in strength. Central Committee Secretary Gyorgy Fejtő told a Saturday rally at Fonyodliget, about 150 kilometres southwest of Budapest, that an average of 10,000 members a month have left the party in recent months, while new members are numbering less than 200 monthly.

### WANTED FOR EMPLOYMENT

The Jordan Press Foundation is in need of an offset typesetter in English to work at the foundation's offset section for the Jordan Times newspaper.

Those qualified and wishing to apply, please call on the director of the printing press section during official office hours from today until Wednesday 6.9.1989.



Women are loaded into a police van in Cape Town after a protest march against hanging and the detention of children without trial

## Defiance campaign goes to the beach

DURBAN, South Africa (R) — Thousands of South African anti-apartheid protesters of all races paddled into the Indian Ocean on a whites-only beach here Sunday, while police kept a watchful eye on the sidelines.

The protest at Addington Beach, about two kilometres from the centre of Durban, was the latest move in a national defiance campaign against Wednesday's parliamentary elections which exclude blacks.

The cheerful protest was in stark contrast with Saturday's scenes in Cape Town when riot police used tear gas and water cannon filled with purple dye to disperse demonstrators from the city centre.

The Durban demonstrators, many of them wearing yellow caps with anti-apartheid slogans, arrived in a constant stream from mid-morning and were allowed past a chain of police officers which stretched along the beach road.

The lay on the beach in the early spring sunshine, played ball

games and occasionally defied local bylaws by paddling into the water, oblivious of water cannon and police trucks which were pulled up in the beach car parks.

"There are no incidents to report. We have ample numbers of police at the beach, but nothing has happened," a police spokesman told Reuters.

By late morning, so many demonstrators had converged on the beach that they spilled on to adjoining roads.

Witnesses said several protesters were arrested, apparently for unfurling a flag of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC), the main guerrilla group fighting Pretoria's white rule.

A small group of white right-wingers, wearing caps bearing a "whites only" slogan, provided a moment of tension when they

started arguing with some of the black protesters.

They shouted their support for an extremist movement which advocates a separate state for Dutch-descended Afrikaners which would bar blacks and Jews.

But the right-wingers, who support a recent city council decision to keep Addington reserved for white bathers, withdrew when police moved towards them.

South Africa faces a mounting wave of protest ahead of Wednesday's election, reaching its peak Tuesday and on polling day with a national strike.

The self-styled Mass Democratic Movement (MDM), which has organised the anti-election defiance campaign, also promises a consumer boycott of white businesses in the coming weeks.

The protests boiled over Saturday when police and hundreds of demonstrators clashed in central Cape Town in some of the worst scenes of violence for years in South Africa.

Lawyers estimated that up to 1,000 people were taken in police

trucks from the city centre to a neighbouring police station after protesters tried to march on parliament.

Among those held were anti-apartheid cleric Allan Boesak and more than 50 journalists, including representatives of Japanese, Norwegian, Austrian and British organisations. All were released after giving statements, police said.

Leon Meller, spokesman for Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok, said in a statement the journalists had been arrested because they had ignored warnings not to work in areas of unrest.

"The media was warned before police action was taken to remove themselves from the situation. Those who did not do so were removed from the scene," Meller said.

"We cannot allow these propaganda efforts... to tarnish South Africa's image abroad where a destructive view is being created by totally slanted reports emanating from South Africa," he added.

Shoppers fled in panic when riot police used tear-gas and water cannon filled with purple dye to disperse the demonstrators.

"It is absolutely, utterly scandalous," said anti-apartheid cleric Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who offered sanctuary to fleeing demonstrators in his city centre cathedral.

"It is quite outrageous that people wanting to protest against apartheid which the government has said was dead should be treated in such a brutal fashion," he told reporters.

A church protest scheduled in Soweto Saturday was abandoned after police and troops with automatic rifles surrounded the venue and detained journalists.

"They deployed an army as if South Africa was about to be attacked by foreign forces," said Frank Chikane, secretary general of the South African Council of Churches.

He said the police threatened to shoot him and his colleagues when he arrived at the outdoor stadium.

## Police break up boat people riot

HONG KONG (R) — Vietnamese boat people armed with sharpened tent pegs and rocks rioted in a Hong Kong refugee camp Saturday, killing one man and prompting the authorities to send in British army Gurkhas to search for hidden weapons.

It was the first direct involvement by British army troops in Hong Kong's troubled camps, which hold some 55,622 Vietnamese, many of whom have fled their native country in makeshift boats in the hopes of a better life.

The fighting, which police said involved some 200 people, started early in the morning and was brought under control by police with riot gear after three hours. The dead man had been stabbed. More than a dozen people were injured.

It was the latest in a series of violent incidents in the camps, where international aid workers say tension has been rising as boat people realise they face repatriation to Vietnam.

A British army spokesman said: "The police asked the Gurkhas to help. The queen's Gurkha engineers have been trained to search for weapons and they are going through the camp."

British troops have until now

only helped in construction or transporting supplies.

Deputy Secretary for Security Alistair Asprey told Reuters by telephone the army was not setting a precedent by going into Sek Kong camp to search for weapons which the police believe are buried underground.

Saturday morning's rioting followed an earlier, less serious outbreak the previous night which police said was caused by an argument over the result of a volleyball match.

Police said they had detained 46 Vietnamese men after the fighting but no charges had been made.

There are some 7,000 boat people in Sek Kong camp, a collection of tents on a disused military runway in Hong Kong's new territories.

Police said the rioters at Sek Kong used sharpened metal tent pegs, water pipes fashioned into spears, and makeshift wooden clubs as well as rocks and broken glass.

The violence is the latest in a series of problems besetting the Hong Kong government as it struggles to cope with a steady stream of arrivals. A group of 119 sailed into Hong Kong waters



Squalid sanctuary... Vietnamese boat people cooped up in one of the Hong Kong's refugee camps as they await their fate.

Friday.

Earlier this week the government reported an outbreak of the highly infectious cholera disease on Tai a Chau, a remote island used as a temporary camp for new arrivals.

There are now 16 people confirmed as having the disease and an undisclosed number of others are under observation.

On Friday night, following criticism by OXFAM, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Save the Children Fund that conditions on the island were appalling and insanitary, the government announced that the 4,000 or so Vietnamese still on the islands would be evacuated in an operation due to start Thursday.

Some 42,325 of the Vietnamese are being held as illegal immigrants by the Hong Kong government unless they can prove refugee status during a tough screening process introduced in June last year.

Britain and Hong Kong have been trying to negotiate forced repatriation with Hanoi, but diplomatic sources said the talks had stalled. Vietnam has said it will not agree on humanitarian grounds to people being returned against their will.

On the tape, O'Connell can be heard counting off fish as the submarine cruises along the ocean floor at 210 metres, the newspaper reported. "What the hell is that?" pilot Don Slater asks as the object comes into view. "It's a cow," he concludes.

## U.N. builds on Nobel Peace Prize

UNITED NATIONS (R) — After a year of diplomatic feats and a Nobel Peace Prize for its peacekeeping forces, the United Nations secretary general believes the world body could score its next major triumph in southern Africa.

In an interview with Reuters correspondents, Javier Perez de Cuellar said he hoped the U.N.-supervised elections in Namibia in November would be the organisation's big success for 1989.

"If we could succeed in having a 100 per cent democratic election in Namibia it would be an outstanding achievement for the United Nations... not because we want another Nobel prize, but because this is our main responsibility," he said in the interview late last week.

Preparations for the election, a prelude to Namibia's independence from South

Africa next year, have been plagued by charges from African groups that South Africa is trying to undermine the independence process.

The United Nations has 4,650 troops, 1,000 police and hundreds of civilian officials in the territory to oversee the November elections for a constituent assembly — a contingent African nations say is too small to prevent intimidation.

Perez de Cuellar said he thought additional U.N. police rather than troops would be better suited to maintaining order in the run-up to the Namibian elections because "the only thing soldiers know is how to shoot."

"What we need now is to give assurances to the electors that they will be free to express their preferences," he said.

The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to U.N. peace-keeping forces last year.

Aside from Namibia, the secretary general is trying to end conflicts in Afghanistan, the Gulf, Cyprus, Cambodia, Lebanon and Central America. These issues and about 150 others will be on the agenda of the General Assembly when it opens its 44th annual session Sept. 19.

Unlike some of his predecessors, Perez de Cuellar, a 69-year-old Peruvian lawyer and career diplomat, maintains a low profile and shuns off-the-cuff forecasts.

"Let the dust settle. We have to wait for the dust to settle," he repeated several times in the interview.

He voiced cautious optimism about conflicts in which U.N. efforts, for the moment, are stalled.

On Cyprus, he said U.N.-brokered talks scheduled this month with the leaders of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities were

"out of the question."

Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş has rejected negotiations on the basis of U.N. proposals on ways to reunite the partitioned island under a federal system.

"I don't think Mr. Denktaş and I understand each other very well at this very moment (but) I think after I discuss things with him, things will be much clearer. I've known him for 15 years and I consider him a friend."

In the Gulf, where the U.N. last year achieved a major diplomatic success in obtaining a ceasefire between Iran and Iraq, there is no progress yet towards a permanent settlement.

The secretary general said he hoped he could talk to both parties when he attends the non-aligned summit conference in Belgrade this week.

He will also use the Belgrade meeting to discuss with Arab

leaders the renewed fighting in Lebanon.

In Central America, Perez de Cuellar is proceeding carefully in responding to a request from the region's five presidents to oversee the disbanding of contra rebels fighting the leftwing government of Nicaragua and leftist guerrillas battling the rightwing government of El Salvador.

"I will start by being in touch with the contras and the Salvadoran resistance to see whether they are prepared to accept our role and surrender arms to the United Nations," he said. "This is not an easy exercise."

Perez de Cuellar's caution is his trademark. Some diplomats say that is what has kept him in the job.

Elected in 1981 as a compromise candidate, he was re-elected in 1986 to a second-five year term by a unanimous vote.

### COLUMN

#### Scottish sheep high on mushrooms

LONDON (R) — Sheep that eat hallucinogenic mushrooms are causing problems for drivers on the remote Shetland islands off Scotland, the Times newspaper said Saturday. It said psilocybin, or "magic" mushrooms, popular as an alternative to LSD, grow in abundance on the rugged islands and the sheep have taken to nibbling them. "You have to watch the road at night," said one resident. "It's as if the sheep are drunk. They fall over and take no notice of the traffic." Allan Jones of the north of Scotland Agriculture College said the flock's confusion could be caused by magnesium deficiency "but hallucinations are possible."

#### Best-known tenors compete in world cup

ROME (R) — The world's three best-known tenors — Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras — will sing together for the first time on the eve of next year's world cup soccer final. Italian organisers said Friday. The two-hour concert, with all the proceeds going to charity, will take place July 7 in the ruins of the third century baths of Caracalla in Rome, the summer home of the Rome opera house. Twelve Italian cities will stage the month-long finals of the soccer tournament with the final played in Rome's Olympic stadium July 8. Spaniards Domingo and Carreras and Italian Pavarotti, speaking to a Rome news conference on a satellite linkup, said the concert would include popular songs as well as operatic arias. "All three of us like football very much and I'll be hoping to see Spain playing Italy in the final the next day," said Domingo, speaking from Los Angeles.

#### Restaurant makes exception for Elton

DALLAS (AP) — It wasn't because Elton John and his four guests ordered a \$1,000 bottle of 1959 Chateau Latour, the smoked shrimp and oven roast pheasant on corn puree with Poblano chili ranchero that they let him keep his hat on at the mansion despite their rigorous dress code, restaurant officials said. "It was a military envelope-type hat that sits on top of a head with a jeweled brooch attached and a tassel hanging down," Mairie d'Wayne Broadwell said. "We allowed it only because it's a costume look which you kind of expect from Elton John. We allow clothes that are native to a country or a costume or uniform. The whole look has to be right." The singer, who was in Dallas for a concert, also was wearing a gray silk Italian suit, necktie and one earring.

#### Scientists find cow on ocean floor

SITKA, Alaska (AP) — Scientists counting fish from a submarine made a bizarre find deep below the ocean surface: a sunken cow. Tory O'Connell, a biologist with the State Department of fish and game, said she and the pilot of the two-seat submarine saw the carcass for several seconds as they cruised about 32 kilometres west of Baranof island, 210 metres under the sea. The Sitka Sentinel newspaper sent a reporter to view the videotape the scientists made of the scene, and he reported Friday that the object did look like a cow, a holstein, to be exact. On the tape, O'Connell can be heard counting off fish as the submarine cruises along the ocean floor at 210 metres, the newspaper reported. "What the hell is that?" pilot Don Slater asks as the object comes into view. "It's a cow," he concludes.

### Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	10	15	64 Cloudy
ATHENS	18	24	64 Cloudy
BANGKOK	28	34	82 Clear
BARRANCO	24	30	75 Clear
Buenos Aires	16	22	61 Clear
CAIRO	22	28	72 Clear
CHICAGO	13	23	54 Clear
COPENHAGEN	08	15	44 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	12	18	54 Cloudy
GENOVA	15	22	59 Cloudy
HONG KONG	22	30	72 Clear
ISTANBUL	18	24	64 Clear
LONDON	10	15	54 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	18	24	64 Cloudy
MADRID	18	24	64 Clear
MEXICO	20	26	68 Clear
MONTREAL	13	22	54 Cloudy
MOSCOW	11	17	53 Clear
NEW DELHI	24	30	75 Clear
NEW YORK	21	27	71 Clear
PARIS	18	24	64 Clear
ROME	18	24	64 Clear
STOCKHOLM	11	17	53 Clear
TOKYO	22	28	72 Cloudy
VIENNA	14	20	57 Clear